



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

North Ayrshire Council

A Meeting of North Ayrshire Council will be held remotely on **Wednesday, 08 December 2021** at **14:00** to consider the undernoted business.

Arrangements in Terms of COVID-19

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held remotely in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003. Where possible, the meeting will be live-streamed and available to view at <https://north-ayrshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. In the event that live-streaming is not possible, a recording of the meeting will instead be available to view at this location.

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**
Members are requested to give notice of any declarations of interest in respect of items of business on the Agenda.
- 3 Previous Minutes**
The accuracy of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 October 2021 will be confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (copy enclosed).
- 4 Provost's Report**
Submit report by the Provost for the period 18 October - 28 November 2021 (copy enclosed).
- 5 Leader's Report**
Submit report by the Leader of the Council for the period covering 18 October - 28 November 2021 (copy enclosed).

- 6 Minute Volume (issued under separate cover)**
Submit, for noting and for approval of any recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of Meeting of committees of the Council held in the period 29 April - 29 November 2021.
- 7 Appointment of Statutory Officer - Chief Social Work Officer**
Submit report by the Head of Democratic Services on the appointment of the Chief Social Work Officer (copy enclosed).
- 8 Hybrid Committee Meetings Pilot Update**
Submit report by the Head of Democratic Services to provide an update on the continued hybrid committee meetings pilot in November 2021 (copy enclosed).
- 9 Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership**
Submit report by the Chief Executive on the developing proposals for a Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership (copy enclosed).
- 10 The Boundary Commission for Scotland: 2023 Review of UK Parliament Boundaries in Scotland**
Submit report by the Head of Democratic Services on the Boundary Commission for Scotland's 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland (copy enclosed).
- 11 Boundaries Scotland: 2019 Review of Electoral Arrangements**
Submit report by the Head of Democratic Services on the new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area following a review by Boundaries Scotland (copy enclosed).
- 12 Compulsory Purchase - 2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats**
Submit report by the Head of Democratic Services on the proposed compulsory purchase of the site of the now demolished 2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats (copy enclosed).
- 13 Questions**
In terms of Standing Order 12, submit:-
- (1) a question by Councillor Larsen to the Cabinet Member for Education in the following terms:**
- “Can the Cabinet Member confirm if any child has been assessed and placed in Early Years at Lockhart Campus?”

(2) a question by Councillor Stalker to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

“I would like to ask the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability about the progress that has been made with Transport Scotland regarding the former Trunk road through Dalry?”

A package of improvements was agreed in principle with Transport Scotland in December 2020.

As far as I am aware to this date Transport Scotland have still to formally approve this and release funding to the Council. My fear is with £23.7 million of money from the UK Government’s levelling up funding for the B714 now announced the proposed work of carriageway and footway resurfacing, drainage improvements, lighting and structure improvements and replacement road signage will be side lined where this work is drastically need to help improve Dalry and which should have been completed before road was handed over to North Ayrshire Council.”

(3) a question by Councillor Marshall to Councillor McPhater (as a Council appointee on North Ayrshire Ventures Trust) in the following terms:

“Noting that North Ayrshire Venture Trust (NAVT) has agreed to provide a £800,000 funding boost to extend the Ardrossan Marina can the Leader provide a list of the funds made by NAVT over the last 3 years by organisation and value?”

(4) a question by Councillor McNicol to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

“In November it was announced that the former Seabank care home in Canal Street, Saltcoats was to become the site of a new national drug rehabilitation facility (subject to planning permission).

Scotland’s level of drug-related deaths in the past year was 3.5 times higher than across the UK as a whole, and was higher than any other European country. So I welcome initiatives to tackle drug use, and I appreciate the proposed Specialist Residential Family Unit will help keep families together while treatment is offered to a person suffering from addiction.

My question relates not to the services that will be offered by such a facility, but to the openness, transparency and accountability in this council and how we interact with the people we represent.

Will the Leader of the Council inform members what meetings/discussions took place with Elected Members and North Ayrshire Council officers prior to this decision being made? Will he also inform members who made the decision and what Consultation was carried out with local Elected Members and residents of Saltcoats prior to this decision?”

(5) a question by Councillor McNicol to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"Since the Ardrossan North Shore Site was decommissioned between 1986 and 1989, the following site investigations have been carried out by North Ayrshire Council and Cunninghame District Council :-

*Ardrossan North Shore Site Investigation Non -Technical Summary, May 2021

*Envirocentre, Ardrossan Development Site 2019 Site Investigation- Interpretative Report, August, 2019

*Envirocentre Detailed Investigation, Ardrossan Phase 1 (Northern and Southern Corners) , April 2011

*Fairhurst, Proposed Developers Package, July 2010

*Envirocentre Detailed Delineation Investigation, Ardrossan Phase 1, December 2008

*Envirocentre Remediation Strategy, Ardrossan Main Site, July 2008

*Envirocentre Draft Remedial Strategy, Ardrossan Former Shell Bitumen Terminal, November 2006

*Mason Evans, Ardrossan Phase II , Hydrocarbon Remediation Report, June 2006

*Arup Revised Conceptual Site Model, September 2006

*Arup, Ardrossan Bitumen Terminal Investigation and Remediation Strategy, March 2001

*Shell UK Ltd, Ardrossan Bitumen Terminal, Risk Assessment Report, May 2000

*Shell UK Ltd, Ardrossan Bitumen Terminal, Factual Report Volume 1, Text and Figures , 1999

*Raeburn Drilling & Geotechnical, Report on Ground Investigation, July 1995 and

*Fairhurst, 20800 Shell Bitumen, Ardrossan, Treatment of Contamination, July 1991

Additional works carried out in 2020 and 2021 include:-

*Environmental monitoring completed in 2020

*Production of Remedial Strategy Document completed in 2020

*Assessment of existing soil stockpiles on site completed in 2021

*Assessment of sediment quality in adjacent proposed marina development area with respect to potential use as infill on the Ardrossan North Shore Site completed in February 2021

*Site investigation works of the Coast to Coast site which is to form part of the development site, completed in April, 2021

Will the Leader of the Council inform members of the cost to North Ayrshire Council since 1996 and previously Cunninghame District Council, of all Site Investigations (as detailed above) carried out by Companies on the North Shore Site, Ardrossan since the site was vacated by Shell UK Ltd in 1986? Will he also inform members of the cost to decontaminate the North Shore site prior to the commencement of any works?"

(6) a question by Councillor Ferguson to the Cabinet Member for Education in the following terms:

“To ask the Cabinet portfolio holder for Education how many teachers and school support staff have raised serious concerns with NAC over the last 3 years in relation to online abuse? (Please provide a year on year breakdown of possible).”

(7) a question by Councillor Ferguson to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care in the following terms:

“To ask the Cabinet portfolio holder for Health and Social Care what contingencies have been put in place to support NHS Ayrshire and Arran over the winter period in the event of a ‘Code Black’?”

(8) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

"What explorations have taken place within NAC regarding the legal mechanisms that might require owners of retail properties which are closed (and in truth simply abandoned, often for several years) in North Ayrshire, to encourage them to maintain their properties to a reasonable standard; and in terms of payments of business rates, what concessions are made for retail property owners who allow their properties to remain empty resulting in them degrading and bringing what has been described as ‘an air of despondence’ to many town centres in North Ayrshire?”

(9) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

"There is great interest in the extension of National Cycle Route 7 from Kilbirnie to Dalry and I am aware of some level of progress by North Ayrshire Council on this issue. Can a brief update be provided on the current situation?"

(10) a question by Councillor Stephen to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

“What dialogue has the leader had with the Scottish Government regarding the fairer funding for North Ayrshire Council? The Scottish Conservatives have repeatedly called on fairer funding for all councils”

(11) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"Given that there are circa 375 Procurement Cards issued to staff who are employed by North Ayrshire Council can the Leader confirm what policies and training arrangements are in place for staff and that the cards are being issued in line with Community Wealth Building objectives?"

(12) a question by Councillor Billings to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

"In June 2018 North Ayrshire Council adopted the Plastic Waste Prevention Action Plan, with the stated aim of being a 'Plastic Free Council, by 2022. In addition, it was agreed that Council officers will proactively work with community partners, local businesses and the 3rd Sector Organisations to promote and encourage initiatives and activities to prevent and reduce the impact of single-use plastics on the local environment.

Could the Member for the Green New Deal and Sustainability tell me what progress the Council has made towards becoming plastic free, what further steps are required to achieve this aim, and provide details of the proactive engagements and initiatives have taken places to encourage outside organisations to prevent and reduce the impact of single-use plastics?"

(13) a question by Councillor Gallacher to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"Noting that the Cabinet declared a climate change emergency in June 2019, how many members of the administration party now drive an electric vehicle?"

(14) a question by Councillor Glover to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"How many NAC staff are employed in community wealth building and what is the annual salary cost?"

(15) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"Does the Leader of the Council think it is acceptable, that borrowing against the future income from the Largs Seafront Car Park Fund and using some of the capital from the fund, is the only immediate way to finance the refurbishment of the Seafront Toilets next to the Seafront Car Park in Largs?"

(16) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"During the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th September 2021, I asked the following question.

Can the Leader of the Council please provide any examples of a North Ayrshire Sole Trader winning a tender for work with NAC through the Community Wealth Building Initiative and can you please provide details of how many North Ayrshire Sole Traders or small businesses with one or two employees are on the tendering list?

Can the Leader of the Council please provide details of what has been done to advertise and encourage North Ayrshire Businesses of all sizes to register as approved contractors with NAC and get involved with the procurement and tendering process at North Ayrshire Council, since I asked the question on the 8th September?"

(17) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

"Can the Leader of the Council please provide details of North Ayrshire Council's involvement during the COP 26 events in Glasgow?"

(18) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

"Can the Cabinet Member please provide details of where the additional funding in this year's Roads Budget was spent?"

14 Motions

In terms of Standing Order 13, submit:-

(1) a motion by Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor Ferguson, in the following terms:

"That Council welcomes the publication of the Draft Fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4) which includes Hunterston as a Strategic Asset and in particular the development of "Infrastructure for the generation and storage of electricity from renewables of or exceeding 50 megawatts" and agrees:

(i) that Planning Officers prepare a detailed response to the consultation for consideration and approval by the Planning Committee and

(ii) that the response to the consultation includes the proposal that development of infrastructure for the generation and storage of electricity at Hunterston should include emerging small nuclear reactors subject to appropriate legislation and regulation."

(2) a motion by Councillor Billings, seconded by Councillor Ferguson, in the following terms:

“The Scottish Government published its proposals for the licensing scheme for short-term lets on 22nd November 2021, which requires that all short-term lets must be licensed with their local authority. The licensing scheme proposals have been subject of considerable criticism from local authorities, the tourism industry and members of the Scottish parliament, who consider that the costly and burdensome licensing scheme is both unnecessary and has the potential to inflict considerable harm on Scotland’s tourism industry. An alternative registration scheme has been proposed by the Association of Scotland’s Self-Caterers that would be less costly for providers, less onerous for local authorities to administer, whilst still providing the required health and safety protection. A compulsory registration scheme would achieve the health and safety aims of the licensing scheme but would be less costly for providers and less onerous for North Ayrshire Council to administer.

I therefore move that North Ayrshire Council agrees that the Chief Executive writes to the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government to state that North Ayrshire Council does not agree with the Scottish government’s licensing proposals for short-term lets, and that an alternative compulsory registration scheme should be considered.”

(3) a motion by Councillor Dickson, seconded by Councillor Cullinane, in the following terms:

"The Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2019 changed the conviction information requirements on all disclosures. Minor offences no longer have to be disclosed for a long period of time, nor do offences that occurred before age 12.

This change in disclosure supports employers to recruit the right person for the job regardless of unrelated convictions thereby releasing people from the poverty trap that many find themselves following a period of being involved in our justice system.

We need leadership in this area of recruiting with conviction, to help narrow inequalities and to support businesses to fill vacancies; the result being we help to sustain our businesses, reduce unemployment; each part contributing to our community wealth building.

Employers often state that they have difficulty in filling vacant posts. They may well have over-looked suitable candidates who have had a conviction. Changing their recruitment outlook could be hugely beneficial to both businesses and applicants. They need confidence to change their practice.

Many seeking employment feel it's a waste of time to apply for jobs because they are convinced their conviction rules them out of any consideration. They need confidence that their application will be objectively considered.

North Ayrshire Council is a big employer with a wide range of jobs requiring a huge range of skills.

We already play a big part in supporting people into employability but just as we supported carers by becoming a Carer Positive employer, so I believe we should, as a key partner in the Community Justice Ayrshire Partnership, become an ambassador to Recruit with Conviction and actively promote the value of our recruiting with conviction.

I therefore propose the following motion:-

"That North Ayrshire Council agrees to become an Ambassador for Recruit with Conviction; will support and promote safe and sustainable employment for people with convictions in our workplace, and further agrees to seek to influence other workplaces".

15 Urgent Items

Any other items which the Chair considers to be urgent.

Webcasting - Virtual Meeting

Please note: this meeting may be recorded/live-streamed to the Council's internet site, where it will be capable of repeated viewing. At the start of the meeting, the Provost will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded/live-streamed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during the webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available via the Council's internet site.

If you are participating in this meeting by invitation, you are consenting to being filmed and consenting to the use and storage of those images and sound recordings and any information pertaining to you contained in the them live-streaming/recording or training purposes and for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available to the public. If you do not wish to participate in a recording, you should leave the 'virtual meeting'. This will constitute your revocation of consent.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact dataprotectionofficer@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

North Ayrshire Council Sederunt

Ian Clarkson (Provost)
Robert Barr (Depute Provost)
John Bell
Timothy Billings
Marie Burns
Joe Cullinane
Scott Davidson
Anthea Dickson
John Easdale
Todd Ferguson
Robert Foster
Scott Gallacher
Alex Gallagher
Margaret George
John Glover
Tony Gurney
Alan Hill
Christina Larsen
Shaun Macaulay
Jean McClung
Ellen McMaster
Ronnie McNicol
Louise McPhater
Davina McTiernan
Tom Marshall
Jimmy Miller
Jim Montgomerie
Ian Murdoch
Donald Reid
Donald L Reid
Ronnie Stalker
Angela Stephen
John Sweeney

Chair:

Apologies:

Attending:

North Ayrshire Council
27 October 2021

At a Meeting of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m. involving participation by remote electronic means.

Present

Ian Clarkson, Robert Barr, John Bell, Timothy Billings, Marie Burns, Joe Cullinane, Scott Davidson, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, Todd Ferguson, Robert Foster, Scott Gallacher, Alex Gallagher, Margaret George, John Glover, Tony Gurney, Alan Hill, Christina Larsen, Shaun Macaulay, Tom Marshall, Jean McClung, Ellen McMaster, Ronnie McNicol, Louise McPhater, Davina McTiernan, Jimmy Miller, Jim Montgomerie, Ian Murdoch, Donald Reid, Donald L. Reid, Ronnie Stalker, Angela Stephen and John Sweeney.

In Attendance

C. Hatton, Chief Executive; C. Cameron, Director (Health and Social Care Partnership); R. McCutcheon, Executive Director (Place); K. Yeomans, Director (Growth and Investment); R. Arthur, Head of Connected Communities (Communities and Education); M. Boyd, Head of Service (Finance), F. Walker, Head of Service and M. Lindsay, Senior Customer Officer (People and ICT); A. Craig, Head of Service, N. Shearer, Team Manager (Legal Services), M. McColm, Senior Manager (Communications), H. Clancy, A. Little and C. Stewart, Committee Services Officers and M. Anderson, Senior Manager (Committee and Member Services) (Democratic Services) (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Provost Clarkson in the Chair.

1. Provost's Remarks

The Provost welcomed Members and officers to the meeting, which was proceeding on a wholly remote basis by electronic means, and dealt with preliminary matters.

2. Apologies

The Provost invited intimation of apologies for absence. There were none.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

There were no declarations of the Party Whip.

4. Previous Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 September 2021 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

5. Provost's Report

Submitted report by the Provost for the period from 30 August 2021 – 17 October 2021.

The Provost referred to the recent passing of two outstanding, well-respected former Elected Members: David Munn and Tom Barr. He noted the exceptional impact which both had had on the Council and on their constituencies and, on behalf of all Members, extended his condolences to their family and friends.

The Provost then highlighted the following elements of his written report:

- the launch of the Adult Volunteer Recognition Award at the Ayrshire Community Trust in Saltcoats on 10 September 2021;
- attendance, along with other civic leaders in Scotland, at an online reception on 21 September 2021 hosted by the Consul General of China, to celebrate the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China;
- the ceremonial signing, on 23 September 2021, of the Armed Forces Community Covenant;
- the ground-breaking ceremony for the new Moorpark Primary School in Kilbirnie on 27 September 2021;
- the Kirkin' of the Deacon Convenor of Irvine Incorporated Trades, Donald Wilson, in Irvine's Old Parish Church on 3 October 2021;
- attendance at the first of two Brass in the Valley concerts to acknowledge and celebrate frontline workers and volunteers;
- a ceremony on 11 October 2021 at which the Sheriff Principal introduced Sheriffs Watson and Jamieson as resident sheriffs at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court; and
- the Veterans Housing Scotland reception, which took place on 14 October 2021.

Noted.

6. Leader's Report

Submitted report by the Leader of the Council for the period from 30 August - 17 October 2021.

The Leader provided a verbal update to Members on the award of £23.7m in Levelling Up funding for the upgrading of the B714. Councillor Cullinane also advised that fund had been significantly oversubscribed, but that the Council had been invited to re-submit the bid in respect of Lochshore and Ardrossan North Shore, for future consideration.

Noted.

7. Council Minute Volume

Submitted for noting and for approval of any recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of meetings of committees of the Council held in the period 24 May – 1 October 2021.

Noted

8. North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of Meeting Held in June and September 2021

Submitted report by the Interim Executive Director (Communities and Education) on the Minutes of the meetings of the Community Planning Partnership Board held on 10 June and 29 September 2021.

The Chief Executive highlighted the following matters which had been discussed by the CPP Board:

- an update on the Children's Services Strategic Partnership;
- the new Youth Participation and Citizenship Strategy;
- various workshops for CPP partners, on strengthening links with the Alcohol and Drugs, the Careers Review
- a presentation on the role of the Third Sector Interface;
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's consultation on unwanted fire alarm signals;
- work around the Locality Partnership Priorities; and
- an update on the Local Employability Partnership.

Noted.

9. Hybrid Committee Meetings Pilot

Submitted report by the Head of Democratic Services on the outcome of the hybrid committee meetings pilot which took place in October 2021.

At its meeting on 8 September 2021, the Council agreed to conduct a hybrid committee meetings pilot in September/October 2021, involving the Licensing Committee and Integration Joint Board (IJB). A protocol, developed by officers to guide the implementation of the hybrid meetings pilot, was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:

- the availability of a recording of the IJB meeting;
- the benefits of hybrid meetings, particularly with regard to the availability of officer advice to the Chair;

- the need for further testing of the system with more participants and a bigger meeting Agenda;
- whether the extension of the pilot should be delayed until Spring 2022, given the additional staff resources required for the system, current Scottish Government advice on home working, and issues of confidentiality and comfort arising from the current need for windows to be open due to COVID-19;
- whether a pragmatic approach might be taken with regard to the issue of ventilation; and
- cessation of the pilot in the event of changes to COVID-19

Councillor McNicol, seconded by Councillor Barr, moved approval of the recommendations set out in the report.

As an amendment, Councillor Dickson, seconded by Councillor Burns, moved to delay the pilot testing of hybrid committee meetings until the end of March/beginning of April 2022.

There followed debate and summing up.

On a division and roll call vote, there voted for the amendment, Councillors Burns, Davidson, Dickson, Gurney, Hill, Larsen, Macaulay, McClung and McTiernan (9), and for the motion, Councillors Barr, Bell, Billings, Clarkson, Cullinane, Easdale, Ferguson, Foster, Gallacher, Gallagher, George, Glover, Marshall, McNicol, McPhater, Miller, Montgomerie, Murdoch, Donald Reid, Donald L. Reid, Stalker, Stephen and Sweeney (23), Councillor McMaster abstaining, and the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed as follows:

- (a) to note the outcome of the hybrid meetings pilot;
- (b) to extend the pilot of Licensing Committee and Integration Joint Board hybrid meetings until the next Council meeting, subject to:
 - (i) consultation with the Health and Social Care Partnership with regard to the IJB arrangements;
 - (ii) hybrid meetings during the next stage of the pilot proceeding as “remote meetings (with physical participation)”, with no more than 50% of committee Members attending in person and on the basis that any failure of the hybrid equipment would result in the meeting reverting to a remote platform;
 - (iii) amendment of the hybrid meetings protocol set out at Appendix 1, to accommodate physical attendance by external parties in exceptional circumstances, as determined by officers;
 - (iv) the pilot being suspended in the event of a reintroduction of social distancing requirements; and

- (v) the extent of the pilot being dependent on the availability of sufficient staff resources

- (c) to receive a report on the outcome of the extended pilot thereafter.

10. Questions

In terms of Standing Order 12, submitted:

- (1) a question by Councillor Burns to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

“Recent media speculation suggests that many Irvine residents are still not fully aware of the proposed developments in the harbour area as a result of the Ayrshire Growth Deal. Can the Leader summarise the plan for this area, highlighting the key changes and improvements that will be visible to the local community when the project is completed?”

Councillor Cullinane thanked the Member for her question and responded in the following terms:

“The Ayrshire Growth Deal proposals for the Great Harbour comprise a programme of investment to create three major hubs of activity at the Irvine Harbourside. The Outline Business Case for £14m of funding from the Ayrshire Growth Deal was approved by Scottish Government in March 2021. The concept proposals focus on three activity or event hubs:

1. A Maritime Heritage Hub, which will promote an extension of the National Maritime Museum through additional exhibition and event space.
2. A Marine, Food and Events Hub, which will include the improvement of marine facilities supporting water sports and areas for outdoor events. The initial investment will be to the Harbourmaster’s Office. This will allow the building and adjacent land to be promoted to develop a food and drink cluster to enhance the existing local offer.
3. A Coastal Hub – this will include the development of a range of play park facilities. In the longer-term, it is envisaged that there will be opportunities for further restaurant provision and residential development.

Alongside these hubs, smaller scale placemaking improvements will be implemented. Following the recent appointment of a design team, the concept proposals will be developed to a more detailed stage. The design team will consider how the proposals can be most effectively developed and consider key issues such as the provision of parking.

The concept proposals were the subject of a report to the Council's Cabinet in May, and more recently an update was provided to the Irvine Locality Planning Partnership. An appropriate programme of public engagement will be vitally important to shape the investment proposals and understand the priorities of the local communities who will be involved at every stage with initial public consultation anticipated to take place in early 2022. Regular updates will be provided to the Locality Planning Partnership and a stakeholder reference group will be formed to ensure ongoing community representation."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Burns referred to the asset transfer of public toilets at Irvine beach to Coastwatch and asked for reassurance that consideration of this basic amenity would form part of the ongoing development of the area, with support provided to Coastwatch to continue to develop their role.

The Leader responded by referring to plans for the development of further restaurant provision within the Coastal Hub and indicated that investment in this area should significantly enhance public toilet provision in this area. Councillor Cullinane acknowledged the importance of getting public toilet provision right, given the aspiration to attract thousands more visitors to the area.

(2) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

"Our older people in Sheltered Housing complexes in North Ayrshire are living in virtual isolation, unable to access communal areas where they previously enjoyed meeting for coffee mornings or simply to chat on a daily basis. North Ayrshire Council continually say they are taking a slow and measured approach to opening communal areas because of the fear of spreading covid, but perhaps don't fully appreciate the mental anguish caused by this restriction on normal life over the past 19 months.

Our older folk have been double jabbed to reduce the likelihood of catching Covid. In Kilbirnie and Beith they tell me they want the communal areas opened up as soon as practicable.

Can the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability advise when North Ayrshire Council will permit these areas to be opened up to residents; and what steps are being taken to keep residents advised of potential timescales."

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:

“The safety of our residents is paramount. In March 2020, at the start of the pandemic, a decision was taken to close all communal lounges within sheltered housing units to keep our residents safe and in recognition that all non-essential contact with other households should be avoided. Officers have been considering how to safely re-open the communal lounges for some time and have been keeping a close eye on the instances of COVID-19 and the impact it is having both locally and nationally. The ongoing successful roll out of the vaccination programme is also positive.

It is recognised that residents enjoy each other’s company and that many will look forward to the opportunity to meet together again in larger groups. Plans were in place to re-open the lounges by mid-October as most restrictions have eased and the instances of COVID-19 had reduced throughout the summer months. However, the sharp increase in COVID-19 cases and hospital admissions across North Ayrshire during September meant that this had to be postponed.

Recent weeks have seen a sizeable reduction in the instances of COVID-19 and together with the continued successful roll out of the vaccination programme, we are now able to consider re-opening the lounges. In North Ayrshire, the number of positive COVID-19 cases per 100,000 of the population had risen to 812 at 3 September 2021. This number has fallen steadily since then and at 16 October 2021 had reduced to 360 cases.

Whilst these trends are encouraging, Officers are continuing to closely monitor the impact of COVID-19 and if the data available continues to indicate an improved position we will progress with plans to safely reopen the lounges week beginning Monday 1 November. Support in Sheltered Housing accommodation has been recognised in the recently published Scottish Government Adult Social Care Winter Preparedness Plan alongside a range of supports which help people to remain more independent with improved mental and physical wellbeing, therefore is it timely for North Ayrshire Council to put in place plans to re-open these areas.

A risk assessment has been completed which outlines a number of steps and precautions which will be taken in preparation for reopening. We will write to all sheltered housing tenants to give them notice of the lounges re-opening and advice on how to use the lounges safely. This will be followed up with a welfare telephone call to answer any questions or concerns that tenants may have. All of the lounges will be thoroughly cleaned prior to reopening and then daily thereafter. Cleaning staff will pay particular attention to surfaces and touch points such as door and window handles. The layout of furniture within each lounge will be considered to ensure social distancing can be maintained. Hand sanitiser and cleaning materials will also be available within each lounge.”

Councillor Montgomerie took the opportunity to add a verbal update to his written response, advising that, as of 23 October 2021, the number of positive cases of COVID-19 had further declined, to 307 cases per 100,000 of the population.

(3) a question by Councillor Gallacher to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

“Will the Council as a matter of urgency and public safety, look into the amount of road signs and streetlights that are hidden or partially hidden behind overgrown bushes or trees, and have the required remedial work done order to make them totally visible again?”

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question and referred to the following written response:

“The Council’s Road’s Service undertakes regular safety inspections on our road network in accordance with our Roads Asset Safety Inspection Policy.

Our Roads Inspectors will continue to be vigilant in the identification of any obstruction to road signage and lighting units during their inspection rounds. Where any overgrowth is identified the landowner will be contacted to request that the offending vegetation is removed. Where any obstruction is the Council’s responsibility, this will be attended to by our Streetscene Service.

In addition, if any specific locations of concern can be provided to officers by the member, these will also be addressed accordingly.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gallacher made reference to an obscured sign at the prominent location of Stanecastle roundabout, Irvine, and asked whether the inspection team was currently working at full capacity.

Councillor Montgomerie responded by confirming that, as far as he was aware, the team was working at full capacity and suggested that the Member report the matter he had raised to the service.

(4) a question by Councillor Gallacher to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

“Before the start of the next fishing season in March 2022, will the Council construct an anti-poaching fence at the weir on the River Irvine, similar to successful such fences elsewhere?”

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question and referred to the following written response:

“Officers met with Cllr Gallacher on-site earlier this year to discuss the proposal for an anti-poaching fence. The area in question is on Common Good land. The Council therefore has no allocated budget for this. Funding for supply and installation of the fence would require to be identified, before any installation could take place. Officers would be happy to meet again with Cllr Gallacher to discuss potential external sources of grant funding to assist the Club in their desire to install the fence.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gallacher sought confirmation that the land in question was indeed the property of Irvine Common Good.

Councillor Montgomerie responded in the affirmative.

On a point of order, Councillor Burns sought advice as to whether lengthy written responses to Members’ questions could be taken as read or required to be read out at the meeting. The Head of Democratic Services confirmed that, as written answers had been provided in advance and would also be available in the Minutes, they could, at the discretion of the Member in question, be treated as read.

(5) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

"Concerns have once again been expressed by clergy and others in Kilbirnie about NAC plans for a future cemetery in Kilbirnie. Can the cabinet member for Place advise of the current available capacity in Kilbirnie Cemetery and advise on what plans are in place for a future cemetery in the town?"

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:

“I can confirm that there is in excess of three years’ further cemetery capacity available within Kilbirnie. This includes additional capacity previously created across both cemetery sites following demolition of a redundant storage shed and removal of vegetation to create new lairs. There is further provision that we can make available, when required, by undertaking some further tree and vegetation clearance works to create space for a number of additional lairs. Any trees removed would be replaced through compensatory planting elsewhere.

Officers previously met with local Members to discuss the potential options within the existing cemeteries to increase capacity and would be happy to do so again.

Cabinet approval has previously been provided for a new cemetery in Kilbirnie and I can advise that officers are actively progressing work to identify a suitable site to then allow the necessary consents and construction to be progressed.”

(6) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

“Can the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability provide an update on current progress with the Garnock Valley Flood Plan?”

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:

“Construction of the Upper Garnock Flood Protection Scheme has progressed exceptionally well, despite the challenges presented by the ongoing pandemic, and remains on schedule for completion in April 2022.

The flood protection work is being undertaken across four separate sites. The works at Paddockholm in Kilbirnie have been completed. The engineering work at the main storage area is well underway and the culvert structure is now complete. Work is ongoing on the construction of the dam. All the engineering works have been completed for the Dalry defences and work has now begun on the cosmetic finish on the Beith Road. The works at the Tofts Mill site should be completed there before Christmas.

Officers would be happy to arrange a site visit for any interested local Member before construction work is completed.”

(7) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

“Can the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability provide an update on NAC plans to resolve the recurring flooding issue on the B777 Longbar to Glengarnock Road specifically on the bend located between the Garnock Campus and the Glengarnock Railways Bridge which creates major problems for traffic and pedestrians in heavy rain?”

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:

“Officers have been working to resolve this issue. A new outfall pipe is scheduled for installation to improve the drainage efficiency in this area. This work is being undertaken under a temporary road closure and is expected to be complete by the end of this week (i.e. by Friday 29 October).”

(8) a question by Councillor Donald L. Reid to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

“Can the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability advise on the level and extent of domestic violence in North Ayrshire during the pandemic (March 2020 – August 2021 or figures as available) and express a view on what further steps might be taken to tackle domestic violence generally in North Ayrshire?”

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question, advising that he was one of Scotland's White Ribbon ambassadors. Councillor Montgomerie invited the Member to take as read the table included in the following written response:

"The table provided contains the available data.

	April 19 – Mar 2020	April 20 – Mar 2021	Variance
Police Scotland - Reports of Domestic incidents	1627	1564	- 4%
Local Authority Homelessness as a result of domestic violence	137	153	+12%
Women's Aid - Requests for Outreach support and advice	599	607	+1%
Women's Aid - Requests for refuge accommodation	105	187	+78%
	Q1 April- June 2019/20	Q1 April- June 2020/21	Q1 April- June 2021/22
Police Scotland - Reports of domestic incidents	544	561	522
Local Authority - Homelessness as a result of domestic violence	33	29	44
Women's Aid - Requests for Outreach Support and Advice	207	176	216
Women's Aid - Requests for refuge accommodation	26	65	58

Reports of domestic incidents to Police Scotland during 2020/21 reduced by 4% compared to the same period in the previous year and reduced by a further 7% in the first quarter of 2021/22, compared to the same timeframe in the previous year.

Homeless presentations from households experiencing domestic violence increased by 12% during 2020/21 and have increased by 44% during the first quarter of the year compared to the previous year.

North Ayrshire Women's Aid experienced a 78% increase in requests for refuge accommodation during 2020/21, compared to the same period in the previous year with levels more than doubling in the first quarter of 2021. Whilst requests for refuge accommodation dropped slightly in the first quarter of 2021, they are still 123% higher than the pre-pandemic levels. Requests for the Women's Aid Outreach Support and Advice service has returned to the pre-pandemic levels, having dropped by 15% in the early stages of the pandemic.

During the pandemic, there were concerns that women and girls were unable to get away from their abuser and whilst any increase in domestic violence is unacceptable, it is encouraging that women and girls are able to access support and accommodation services.

The Violence Against Women (VAW) Partnership have continued to have an integrated focus on the increased risk of domestic violence throughout North Ayrshire, sharing the national concern in relation to the ongoing vulnerability of women and girls as lockdown restrictions begin to ease. Partner Agencies continue to support vulnerable Women and Girls who are now able to seek help due to the gradual easing of these restrictions.

Throughout the pandemic, a range of initiatives, policies and services have been developed to ensure that both the local authority and wider partners remain focussed on tackling violence against women and girls. This includes:

- The approval for and development of a Pan-Ayrshire Multi Agency Domestic Abuse Conference Process (MARAC). MARAC is a local meeting where representatives from statutory and non-statutory agencies meet to discuss individuals at high risk of serious harm or murder as a result of domestic abuse.
- The development of a Tenant and Residents Domestic Abuse policy which is scheduled to be considered by Cabinet before the end of this year
- Significant partnership working and inter-agency promotion of services for women experiencing violence across a range of media
- In line with the national Equally Safe strategy, the North Ayrshire Violence Against Women Partnership has developed a robust programme to be delivered throughout the 16 Days of Activism which runs from 25 November until 10 December 2021. The North Ayrshire theme this year is 'young people and healthy relationships', targeting schools in particular.
- A safe space initiative has been developed to establish areas where women can reach out for help within their community. Training has been delivered to Specsavers staff, with dental practices also looking to launch within their surgeries as the initiative expands.

The above highlights a proportion of the activities being undertaken to tackle violence against women and girls. In addition there is a broad range of work being delivered aligned to the Safer North Ayrshire strategy as delivered across the Violence Against Women Partnership.”

(9) a question by Councillor McNicol to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:

“Will the Leader of the Council inform members why the people who responded to the Public Consultation on the Future of Early Years, Primary and Secondary Education in Ardrossan were not made aware of the highly toxic content of the land before they responded to the consultation?”

Councillor Cullinane thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:

“A report ‘Ardrossan North Shore: Proposed Education and Community Campus’ was presented to North Ayrshire Council on 25 September 2019. This included reference to the online publication of the non-technical summary of site investigations.

The Statutory Public Consultation period ran from 22 October to 6 December 2019. The Consultation Paper was published on 22 October 2019. Section 1.8 of the report confirmed that the proposed land was contaminated and provided information on the Council’s remediation strategy.

Two appendices to the Consultation Paper were included in the publication. A non-technical Summary by Envirocentre was attached at Appendix 3, which detailed a list of previous surveys undertaken and provided details on the specifics of the contaminants. A FAQs document was attached at Appendix 4, which included a section specific to site matters and referenced contamination.

During the Statutory Public Consultation period, 6 public meetings took place. On arrival, a FAQs document was made available to attendees, which included a response on the contaminated land. The format of the meetings included themed stalls, each with relevant officers from the Council in attendance to answer questions from the public. One of the themed stalls was Site Specific Matters which provided attendees hard copies of the non-technical Summary by Envirocentre. A representative from Envirocentre accompanied the Council officers at meetings held in Ardrossan Academy to answer any questions on all matters relating to the site contamination and the report.

All the questions raised were documented during the meetings and subsequently published on the Council’s website on 5 December. A total of 27 questions were raised and answered on site contamination during the public meetings.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor McNicol asked if the Leader would tell Members what guarantees would be/had been provided by the companies employed to remove contamination from the site and whether he, as Leader of the Council, would accept anything less than an absolute guarantee that 100% toxic contaminants had been removed from the site before allowing construction to begin.

The Leader responded by referring to the numerous papers which had been submitted to the Council on this matter and to the various rounds of consultation which had taken place. Councillor Cullinane asserted that the Council had been more open and transparent than required and, by bringing reports to the full Council rather than only to Cabinet, had afforded Members many opportunities to express their views and vote.

(10) a question by Councillor Gurney to the Cabinet Member for Green New Deal and Sustainability in the following terms:

“Last week saw the introduction of facial recognition systems in our schools to allow children to access school dinners.

These systems use technology that does not simply match "pictures" of the user. Instead, aspects of each user's features are captured and recorded. It is these aspects, which in general stay constant throughout your life, that are used to complete facial recognition.

In other words, the data captured in our schools today can be used to identify our children for the rest of their lives.

Following the introduction of facial recognition system for children to access school dinners and the privacy issues this clearly raises, would be the Member please tell me:

1. Who stores the information gathered - this council or the system supplier?
2. Who is the designated data controller?
3. Is the information stored shared with any third parties?
4. Does the agreement permit sharing of this data in the future?
5. Which rights will users of the system be required to waive?
6. Following so many well publicised data breaches from all sectors, what steps are being taken to protect the data gathered?
7. In the event of a catastrophic data breach what remedies are available to users of the system?"

Councillor Montgomerie thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:

“1. Who stores the information gathered - this council or the system supplier?”

The data is stored by the supplier, utilising a Microsoft Azure instance (a highly managed, virtual, cloud-based server ringfenced to a particular supplier) which is provided and maintained by Microsoft to the industry leading standards noted below. Utilizing Microsoft Azure enables more advanced security controls than could typically be achieved in-house and which can be deployed by the supplier in the design of their system. Such security controls include the encryption of all data to the international AES-256 standard. As part of the contract between North Ayrshire Council and the supplier, the instance requires to be regularly updated to the latest security standards. The entire system was evaluated at point of procurement to ensure it conformed with a broad set of international and industry-specific compliance standards, namely:

- ISO 27001 - Information Security Management Systems – Requirements
- ISO 27002 - Code of practice for information security controls
- ISO 27017 - Code of practice for information security controls based on ISO/IEC 27002 for cloud services

- ISO 27018 - Code of practice for protection of personally identifiable information (PII) in public clouds acting as PII processors
- ISO 22301 – Business continuity management
- UK Government Cloud Security Principles

The supplier will supply and maintain the system on behalf of North Ayrshire Council. The supplier is required to adhere to GDPR and relevant Data Protection legislation and has signed the appropriate Data Sharing Agreement.

2. Who is the designated data controller?

The Council is the designated data controller. A controller to processor Data Sharing Agreement has been signed in accordance with the relevant Data Protection legislation.

3. Is the information stored shared with any third parties?

Please see answer to Question 1 above.

4. Does the agreement permit sharing of this data in the future?

No. The data sharing agreement in place specifically prohibits any further sharing or relocation of the data.

5. Which rights will users of the system be required to waive?

User rights will remain intact. There is no element of automated decision making or profiling involved and system parameters naturally preclude data portability. If parents/pupils wish to use the facial recognition system, they need to provide the Council with consent to do so. If they do not consent, no facial recognition data is collected. In the event that an individual consents to the collection of their data and participates in the facial recognition system but decides against it at a later date, they should contact their school in which event the information held will be deleted in accordance with the data subject's right to erasure. Once a young person leaves school, the information will immediately be deleted. Where no consent is given, a PIN is issued so that the young person has an alternative method of paying for their meal. Parents and pupils were provided with a leaflet which gave information about the system and details of what data is collected for the use of facial recognition technology.

6. Following so many well publicised data breaches from all sectors, what steps are being taken to protect the data gathered?

The tender process, as a mandatory requirement, sought supplier undertakings to ensure that the server is regularly updated with the latest security software and conforms with a broad set of international and industry specific compliance standards (as noted above).

Rigorous independent audits of the Microsoft Azure platform are performed by third-party specialist security agencies under commission from Microsoft. These audits are based on guidance published by the British Standards Institute which specifies adherence to strict security controls and does not provide specific access to data. High level scanning is carried out to identify vulnerabilities in the system. The facial template data is held as an encrypted data string and is therefore rendered unusable to any unauthorised end user. A very small number of technicians employed by the supplier have on site access to the data only; those who do are appropriately background checked. In the event of any data breach, it is perceived that there is less risk of data aggregation via a facial template encryption algorithm than more traditional data identifiers such as a photograph.

The process has also been assessed against the UK Government's Cloud Security Principles. The supplier holds Cyber Essentials Plus certification and the security of the cloud-based solution meets the requirements of North Ayrshire Council's security policy and complies with British Standard for Information Security Management, Business Continuity and Cyber Essentials Plus certification.

All data is hosted in the UK and is encrypted to the international AES-256 standard.

7. In the event of a catastrophic data breach what remedies are available to users of the system?

Data breaches can take many forms and this would inform the remedy. As data controller, the Council's data breach procedures would be initiated to mitigate and manage said breach. The supplier is legally obliged to assist with any mitigating procedures. The decision to inform individuals affected by the breach will normally be taken by the relevant Executive Director in conjunction with the data controller. Such notification will also tell them how and when the breach occurred and what data was involved, as well as what steps North Ayrshire Council are taking to respond to the breach. In line with Scottish Government guidance, the Council uses a Cyber Incident Response Plan approach. This approach also identifies key stakeholders and those required to undertake the activities necessary to meet the objectives of each phase of the approach. The overall objective of the approach is to ensure all necessary steps are taken to recover affected systems and services back to a 'Business as Usual' state."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gurney asked for the following information:

1. The additional cost arising from having two systems in place for the same service, to allow for those who had not given consent;
2. Confirmation that the project had also followed ISO 31000;
3. Confirmation that no back-ups were stored on Microsoft's extensive worldwide network;
4. Whether the agreement would prohibit data sharing in the event of the take-over of the service provider;
5. Further detail on how the process of storing biometric data had been explained to parents and guardians and how their informed consent had been obtained;

6. The steps in place to prevent others accessing the encrypted data using the same software (which would then identify children).
7. The remedies available to the users in the event of a breach.

Councillor Montgomerie responded by referring to the update briefing circulated to all Elected Members in the past week. He gave an assurance that officers were continuing to respond to enquiries and discuss the matter with the Information Commissioner, and advised of the intention to provide a further update to Members in early November.

Councillor Stalker left the meeting during consideration of the above item, re-joining during consideration of the following item.

11. Motion

In terms of Standing Order 13, submitted:

- (1) a motion proposed by Councillor Billings and seconded by Councillor Glover in the following terms:

“Scotland has a long and proud fishing history and has had access to a wide range of marine habitats that provided a wide variety of both fish and other seafood. However, we are all aware that fishing is in crisis caused by overfishing leading to dwindling catches. To try to mitigate these losses fishing has moved to ever more mechanised and damaging ways of fishing. Whilst that provided short-term solutions, it is clear that the damage caused to marine habitats is leading to further reductions in catches.

So much of our coastal seas are regularly scraped by dredgers and trawlers looking for scallops and other seafood. This destructive action has destroyed and damaged vast expanses of seabed creating virtual seabed deserts that have only a fraction of the marine life they once supported. The varied marine life that used to support healthy and diverse populations of fish no longer exists, and we have an increasingly impoverished, unhealthy and unproductive marine environment. The catastrophic collapse of the once abundant fish stocks in the Clyde in the 1980s and loss of jobs and income that these fisheries supported is a graphic illustration of the problem.

Changes in our climate is causing levels of CO₂ in seawater to rise leading to acidification of the water further damaging and inhibiting the growth of shellfish and other marine life. Coupled with stresses caused by warmer waters, it is clear that this is not a sustainable situation. Our fishing industries face an ecological crisis on many fronts. Major change is required to avert the potential total collapse of our fishing industry.

Healthy inshore marine environments not only act as essential nursery areas for young fish and other sea creatures, but the carbon capture by marine animals and plants (such as seaweeds and sea grasses) capture CO₂ from the water thereby reducing atmospheric CO₂ and help to neutralise the water. The importance of 'blue carbon outcomes' was much discussed at COP25, and will be an important part of COP26. As a seagoing nation we must play our part in including the marine environment in our zero-carbon planning.

The work and research undertaken by Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) in Lamlash, in collaboration with universities and researchers, has shown that with active protection and management our coastal marine environment damaged areas recover to become naturally varied, productive and resilient habitats. This will benefit both our coastal communities and our environment.

With the current focus on the climate change crisis, it is time to press the Scottish government to take the action that it has talked about for so long. The Scottish government has over the years agreed that something needs to be done. It has published reports and had numerous discussions but very little has actually changed. There have been significant vested interests in maintaining the status quo, but the climate, biodiversity and fishing crises are now upon us. The time has come for the Scottish government to take decisive action to proactively manage Scotland's marine environment for the long-term survival of its fisheries, coastal communities and for the hugely positive contribution healthy seas have for the climate.

We in North Ayrshire have announced a climate change emergency. If we are serious about that emergency, we must take a stand for positive action.

I therefore move that North Ayrshire Council agrees that:

1. The control of bottom-towed fishing within our inshore coastal waters will enable the damaged seabeds to return to varied, productive and resilient marine habitats, thereby benefiting the environment and the long-term sustainability of fishing,
2. The Council asks Scottish Government for provision of support to existing fishing businesses which will enable them to transfer to using low environmental impact methods of fishing, thereby protecting existing fishing jobs and the provision of long-term sustainable employment in our local communities, and
3. That the Chief Executive writes to the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands to request that the Scottish Government implements control of bottom-towed fishing in inshore coastal waters and provides the necessary support to existing fishing businesses to enable them to change to low environmental impact and sustainable methods of fishing which directly link to the government's objectives set out in the "Future Fisheries: management strategy 2020-2030".

The effect of such action will provide positive benefits for those working in Scotland's coastal communities and make a significant contribution to mitigating climate change."

As an amendment, Councillor Gurney, seconded by Councillor Dickson, moved the terms of the motion, subject to the addition of the following provision:

“4. That the Chief Executive writes to the Prime Minister to remind him that responsibility for international fishing policy is unfortunately reserved to Westminster and that to ensure a holistic approach to the complex issues, we ask him to transfer complete powers over fishing to the Scottish government as soon as possible.”

In terms of Standing Order 5.7, the Provost agreed that the meeting be adjourned at 3.55 p.m. for a short comfort break, reconvening at 4.05 p.m. with the same Members and officers present and in attendance, with the exception of Councillor Glover.

Members asked questions of clarification of the movers and seconders of the motion and amendment.

On a point of order, Councillor Burns sought advice on the purpose of questions to the mover and seconder of motions and amendments. The Provost noted that questions should be limited to requesting clarification of the terms of the motion or amendment.

There followed debate.

On a further point of order, Councillor Foster requested clarification on the extent to which it was necessary for debate to be strictly confined to the terms of the motion or amendment. The Head of Democratic Services confirmed that extraneous matters may, within reason, be relevant for inclusion in debate.

Following summing up, on a division and roll call vote, there voted for the amendment Councillors Burns, Cullinane, Davidson, Dickson, Foster, Gurney, Hill, Larsen, Macaulay, McClung, McMaster, McPhater, McTiernan and Donald Reid (14) and for the motion, Councillors Barr, Bell, Billings, Clarkson, Easdale, Ferguson, Gallacher, Gallagher, George, Marshall, McNicol, Miller, Montgomerie, Murdoch, Stalker and Stephen (16), Councillors Donald L. Reid and Sweeney abstaining, and the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed as follows:

1. That control of bottom-towed fishing within our inshore coastal waters will enable the damaged seabeds to return to varied, productive and resilient marine habitats, thereby benefiting the environment and the long-term sustainability of fishing,
2. To ask Scottish Government for provision of support to existing fishing businesses which will enable them to transfer to using low environmental impact methods of fishing, thereby protecting existing fishing jobs and the provision of long-term sustainable employment in our local communities, and

3. That the Chief Executive write to the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands to request that the Scottish Government implements control of bottom-towed fishing in inshore coastal waters and provides the necessary support to existing fishing businesses to enable them to change to low environmental impact and sustainable methods of fishing which directly link to the government's objectives set out in the "Future Fisheries: management strategy 2020-2030".

The meeting ended at 4.45 p.m.



PROVOST'S REPORT

For the period covering: 18 October – 28
November 2021

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Provost of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Ian Clarkson.

PROVOST'S REPORT

For the period covering: 18 October – 28 November 2021

Since the last meeting of the Council, I have taken part in several events, including:

Scottish Provosts' Association AGM, City Chambers, Edinburgh, 20 October

On 20 October, I attended the Scottish Provosts' Association AGM. This gathering of all civic heads in Scotland is important to the development of the role of Provost and for networking. At this event, Lord Wallace, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, was the guest speaker.

Visit to Castlepark Community Association, Irvine, 21 October

On 21 October, I visited Castlepark Community Centre in Irvine. This was the start of many visits to a range of community groups throughout North Ayrshire which I am still undertaking. I was delighted to meet members of the Community Association and some of their user groups. The visit also allowed me to witness first-hand the incredible work that is carried out by volunteers and to thank them for all the work they do.

Visit to Café Solace, Bridgend Community Centre, Kilbirnie, 22 October

On 22 October, I visited Café Solace in Kilbirnie. It was excellent to be able to chat to the volunteers behind the project and hear how it has evolved and the positive impact it has on the local community. My thanks go to everyone involved.

Astra Gardens Official Opening, Ardrossan Academy, 22 October

I was delighted to be invited to officially open Ardrossan Academy's Astra Gardens on 22 October. The garden provides learning opportunities for pupils in horticultural skills and is now open to the local community. Partnerships have since been developed with the local foodbank and the community larders and I look forward to visiting again.

Visit Garnock Valley Men's Shed, Kilbirnie, 22 October

I paid a visit to the Garnock Valley Men's Shed in Kilbirnie on 22 October. The Men's Shed is a registered charity that positively supports men's health and wellbeing across the Garnock Valley. I was delighted to meet the people behind it. They are shining examples of the incredible work carried out by volunteers in our local communities throughout North Ayrshire.

Ayrshire Cancer Support Fundraising Ball, Ayr Racecourse, 23 October

On 23 October, I was a guest of Ayrshire Cancer Support at their fundraising ball which took place at Ayr Racecourse. I was happy to be able to attend to highlight this worthwhile cause and to show our support to all the volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to raise funds and provide support for people suffering with cancer throughout Ayrshire.

Visit to Dalry Community Garden, Dalry, 25 October

On 25 October, I visited the Community Garden in Dalry and had a chat with some of the dedicated volunteers leading the initiative. My thanks go out to everyone involved with this project and I am only too happy to highlight all the excellent work they carry out.

Visit to The Farm Basket, Towerlands Farm Community Centre, Irvine, 29 October

On 29 October, I visited the Farm Basket at Towerlands Farm Community Centre. This community food larder provides accessible and affordable groceries helping those in the local community who may be struggling with the costs of a weekly shop. It was good to speak with members of Broomlands and Bourtreehill Community Association who operate this excellent resource.

Ravenfest, Townhouse, Irvine, 29 October

Ravenfest, a celebration of Edgar Allan Poe took place in the Townhouse, Irvine on 29 October. This was the first of what is hoped to be an annual festival celebrating the life and works of Edgar Allan Poe who spent a short time in Irvine as a child.

Visit to Irvine Neighborhood Youth Forum, Irvine, 30 October

On 30 October, I visited Irvine Neighbourhood Youth Forum at their Halloween themed breakfast club in the Redburn Community Centre. The dedicated members of the Forum are involved in a range of community activities, and it is heartening to see the amount of work our young people carry out. They are excellent ambassadors for the young people of North Ayrshire.

Irvine Incorporated Trades 375th Anniversary Dinner, Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine, 30 October

I attended the Incorporated Trades 375th Annual Dinner, otherwise known as the “Big Pie”, in the Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine on 30 October. This traditional event celebrates Irvine and its ancient traditions. The Incorporated Trades are involved in many events and projects in Irvine and uphold the historical and cultural traditions of the former Royal Burgh.

Brass in the Valley Concert, Gateside, Beith, 31 October

On 31 October, I attended the second Brass in the Valley Concert. The concert, arranged by the Barmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club, was held to acknowledge the services provided by front-line workers in the Garnock Valley, during the Covid-19 pandemic. This event was a great opportunity to show our support to the many individuals and organisations who have provided vital support to their local community during these difficult times.

Visit to Choices Community Shop, Irvine, 1 November

On 1 November, I visited the Choices Community Shop on Fullarton Street, Irvine. The shop provides affordable food options for members as well as providing information and guidance to individuals requiring other types of support. I was delighted to get the opportunity to talk to the volunteers behind the project and hear about the enormous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes.

Visit to the Training Station, Saltcoats, 1 November

I visited the Training Station in Saltcoats on 1 November. The project led by Shibumi Karate Club, saw an underused part of Saltcoats Train Station transformed into a state-of-the-art community facility. I was grateful for a tour of the facility and to hear the background to this community-led project.

Visit to Garnock Valley Youth Forum, Walker Hall, Kilbirnie, 3 November

On 3 November, I visited Garnock Valley Youth Forum in the Walker Hall, Kilbirnie. I was delighted to officially launch their Uniform Swap Shop initiative. I was happy to meet the young people and to offer my support and encouragement for all the work they do.

Visit to Dalry Larder, Community Centre Dalry, 3 November

I visited the Dalry Community Larder on 3 November, which is another amazing project set up to support those in the local area. In partnership with the Council, initiatives like these not only provide vital support to those needing it most but bring communities together and highlight the greatest asset we have and that is our people. My thanks go to everyone involved.

Remembrance Day Service, Irvine, 11 November

On 11 November, at 11am we remembered all those brave service men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Services took place throughout North Ayrshire at this time, I attended a service at the war memorial in Irvine.

Cash for Kids Mission Christmas Virtual Launch, 12 November

On 12 November, I joined the virtual launch of Cash for Kids Mission Christmas. At the launch we heard how Cash for Kids are supporting young people in Ayrshire and of the various projects in which they are involved. This is such a worthwhile cause which benefits many, particularly at this time of year.

Dorothy Lynam, 100th Birthday celebration, Woodwynd Hall, Kilwinning, 13 November

I was delighted to have been invited along to Dorothy Lynam's 100th birthday celebration in the Woodwynd Hall, Kilwinning on 13 November. Dorothy is well known for the work she has carried out in the local community for many years, and it was an honour to congratulate her on her special day.

Remembrance Sunday, Irvine, 14 November

I attended the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service in Irvine on 14 November. Remembrance Sunday never fails to move me, but I felt this year's service was perhaps even more poignant than most. After the events of the past 18 months, it was very heartening to see us start to come back together to commemorate and honour those who laid down their lives in war, including hundreds from our own communities. I'd like to thank all the individuals and groups who made it such a special day. As time moves on, it's important that we never lose sight of what this act of remembrance means - reflecting on the sacrifices which have been made and ensure their service is never forgotten. I'd like to thank all the individuals and groups who made it such a special day.

Visit to Kilwinning Locality Team, Kilwinning Library, 15 November

I visited Kilwinning Library on 15 November, to chat with the locality team. I was given an insight into all the excellent work that has been going on behind the scenes during the Covid pandemic and the people behind it. It was great to speak with the dedicated staff who do a huge amount of work supporting local organisations and local initiatives.

Visit to the “Wee Shoap” Community Larder, Woodwynd Hall, Kilwinning, 15 November

I visited the “Wee Shoap” community larder in Woodwynd Hall, Kilwinning on 15 November. I spoke with the personnel involved and was inspired by their dedication to their local community. This initiative serves a need in the area and as well as addressing that need encourages greater community involvement and participation.

Visit to Cranberry Moss Food Larder, Cranberry Moss Community Centre, Kilwinning, 18 November

On 18 November, I visited the Cranberry Moss food larder in Cranberry Moss Community Centre, Kilwinning. This is another great example of partnership working in the local community. We have saw communities come together to support each other during the pandemic and projects like this magnify the tremendous effort of volunteers in the local area.

Showmen’s Guild Annual Luncheon, Hilton Grosvenor Hotel, Glasgow, 19 November

On 19 November, I attended the Showmen’s Guild annual luncheon, in Glasgow. Fairgrounds have been an integral part to festivals and events throughout North Ayrshire for many years. It was good to meet the people involved in these attractions and to hear about how the pandemic has affected them and about their plans for the future.

Scottish Youth Parliament Election Announcement Evening, Volunteer Rooms, Irvine, 23 November

I was delighted to attend the Scottish Youth Parliament election announcement in the Volunteer Rooms, Irvine on 23 November. My congratulations go to Mais Al Diri, Logan Gilmour, Justin Jones and Pyper Quayle who have been elected to the Scottish Youth Parliament. I am very proud of these young people and I look forward to working alongside them.

Violence Against Women – 16 Days of Action, Flag-raising, Cunninghame House, 25 November

On 25 November, I raised the flag at Cunninghame House to launch this year's White Ribbon 16 Days of Action, which promotes an end to Violence Against Women and directly addresses men, so they understand the scale of the problem and become part of the solution. We all have a role to play in this campaign and the message is clear that violence against women will not be tolerated.

Jolly Beggars Burns Club, 77th Annual St. Andrew's Dinner, Bowling Club, Beith, 26 November

It was a pleasure to attend the Jolly Beggar's Burns annual St. Andrew's dinner on 26 November in Beith Bowling Club. I thoroughly enjoyed the event, which celebrated all the very best about Scotland and it was great to see communities slowly emerging from the pandemic restrictions and coming together in a social setting to enjoy themselves. Thanks to the Jolly Beggars Burns Club for arranging this event.

Royal British Legion Scotland, Centenary Concert, Parish Church of St Cuthbert, Edinburgh 28 November

On 28 November, I attended the Royal British Legion Centenary Concert in Edinburgh. As Veteran's Champion I work closely with veterans in North Ayrshire and with local branches of the British Legion, so I was only too delighted to attend this event and show our support to this organisation who have supported veterans throughout the UK for the past 100 years.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Clarkson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'I' and a long, sweeping underline.

Councillor Ian Clarkson
Provost North Ayrshire Council



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

LEADER'S REPORT

For the period covering: 18 October – 28
November 2021

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Leader of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Joe Cullinane.

LEADER'S REPORT

For the period covering: 18 October – 28 November 2021

VISIT TO GARNOCK DAM SITE, 21 October

On 21 October I had the opportunity to visit the Upper Garnock Flood Protection Scheme. The £18million project involves work at four sites across the Garnock Valley and I visited Area 1 – the upper storage area in Kilbirnie. This section of the work is the biggest part of the project. It involves the construction of the flood storage dam which will temporarily reduce river flow during periods of high rainfall, to reduce flood risk to properties downstream.

So far, a new culvert has been constructed and it was fascinating hearing the team talk me through how it will operate, including how it will allow the salmon to continue travelling along the Garnock unharmed.

The land around the culvert has been built up by around 12 metres, making the scale of the project massive. Currently the culvert simply looks like a concrete structure surrounded by a mound made of sand and stone but by the time the project is complete the area will be landscaped leaving a grassy hill with the concrete just peering out.

We know that the effects of climate change are already being felt by every part of the world and that makes flooding events more likely. Flooding can have a devastating impact on homes and local businesses and this scheme will offer residents and businesses more security going forward.

The learning from this scheme is very important because once complete the Council will almost seamlessly move onto the next flood defence scheme on Cumbrae. Beyond that, we are asking the Scottish Government for funding to develop more schemes including one at the River Irvine and hopefully we will find out the outcome of that soon.

VISIT TO TRAINING STATION AND FORMAL LAUNCH, 25 October

On 25 October I was delighted to visit the Training Station at Saltcoats Train Station. This has been a fantastic community-led project by the Shibumi Karate Club developed because of the vision of the club's John Deans. John, and the team at Shibumi, have taken a dilapidated part of Saltcoats Train Station and transformed it into a first-class training facility for the Club and the community.

I was proud to support the project with £50,000 of funding from our Community Investment Fund (CIF). This helped the Club in securing almost £500,000 of funding from other sources, which was a key objective of our vision for the Community Investment Fund back in 2017. It is great to see that with every £1 invested from the CIF so far £2.80 of external funding is being secured for North Ayrshire groups.

I remember visiting the building when we initially awarded the karate club the CIF funding and there were literally buckets on the floor collecting the water pouring in from the ceiling. Visiting now, the transformation is unbelievable.

The Training Station is a great example of what a Community Wealth Building Council is about. The Council enabling people like John, and groups like Shibumi, to realise their dreams by providing support and funding, helping them shift the ownership and use of local assets towards the community and building wealth that is rooted in the community for the community.

LEVELLING UP BID ANNOUNCEMENT, 27 October

On 27 October, I received a phone call from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the UK Government Scottish Office, Iain Stewart MP, and was delighted to be informed that North Ayrshire Council had been successful in its bid to the Levelling Up fund to upgrade the B714. The upgrade of the B714 will improve our connectivity with the rest of Scotland, particularly to Glasgow, and provide a better gateway to key economic sites such as Ardrossan Harbour, Hunterston and i3. In addition, the upgrade will also resolve concerns around congestion.

The successful Levelling Up bid will allow us to move onto the next stages of the project which will include the design phase. From the outset, I have been clear that the project needs to include active travel infrastructure. In the past, transport authorities have built new roads without including any active travel infrastructure. That is not good enough. With the B714 we are not building a new road, we are upgrading an existing road, but we will include safe cycling lanes along the whole route. We need to make it easier for people to choose to leave the car and that means providing the infrastructure that allows them to do so.

MEETING WITH SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT DRUGS MINISTER, 28 October

On 28 October, together with my Cabinet member for Health and Social Care Partnership, Robert Foster, North Ayrshire Council Chief Executive Craig Hatton and North Ayrshire Council Executive Director for the Health and Social Care Partnership, Caroline Cameron, I attended a meeting with the Scottish Drugs Minister, Angela Constance MSP and Phoenix

Futures. The meeting was to further discuss proposals by the Scottish Government and Phoenix Futures to open a National Specialist Family Rehabilitation facility in Saltcoats. At the meeting I reinforced the importance of engagement with local communities and stakeholders, the important role of our Community Wealth Building principles and ambitions in developing and operating the centre, and the importance of any new service complementing our already established local services.

Further detailed discussions are planned to take place and information will be shared with communities and stakeholders as these plans progress.

COSLA LEADERS, 29 October

On 29 October I attended COSLA Leaders to discuss a packed agenda including some of the following items:

- Revised COSLA Constitution
- COP26 Update
- COSLA Response to the National Care Services Consultation
- Local Government Finance Update
- UK/Scottish Government Fiscal Framework Review

COSLA has been working with Glasgow City Council, the Scottish Government, the UK Government and local government partners from the rest of the UK, Europe and worldwide to build a partnership that had a strong presence at the COP26 summit. There were opportunities to actively participate and learn about climate actions. In preparation for COP26 North Ayrshire Council is progressing with raising COP26 and climate change awareness in North Ayrshire. The Energy and Sustainability team are liaising with Corporate Communications to provide content to the corporate communication plan for COP26, including events, surveys and information displays. The programme is linked to the seven themes of our third Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy: 'Affordable Warmth', 'Green Economy', 'Transport and Travel', 'Natural Environment', 'Sustainable Operations', 'Carbon Absorption', and 'Climate Change Adaptation'; and five COP26 campaign themes: 'Clean Energy', 'Clean Transport', 'Nature-based solutions (actions that protect, manage and restore ecosystems)', 'Adaptation and resilience'; and 'Climate Finance'

JOINT YOUTH CABINET, 2 November

On 2 November, together with my Cabinet members, we held another successful Joint Youth Cabinets with representation from various schools throughout North Ayrshire and young people from our North Ayrshire Youth Services. More than 140 people took part in topical discussions covering subjects such as cost of the school day, alcohol and drugs education,

positive working relationships with Police and Fire Scotland. Of course, there was also much discussion about Climate Change. I am grateful to all the young people who took part and my Cabinet are always interested in hearing their views and issues that are important to them.

HOUSING SITE VISITS, 3 November

It was great to visit more housing development sites which will deliver state of the art and environmentally-friendly social housing for the communities of North Ayrshire. The sites at Irvine Harbourside and Towerlands in Irvine will see more than 120 homes built. I have said on numerous occasions in the past, that the investment we are putting into our Housing portfolio is the biggest in decades which will benefit many in our communities. This includes sheltered housing and adapted housing to cater for those with disabilities while at the same time maintaining environmentally friendly and cost-effective measures.

My thanks to Yvonne Baulk, Head of Physical Environment and Executive Director for PLACE, Russell McCutcheon for accompanying me on the visits.

VISIT TO LOCAL BUSINESSES, 10, 15 and 22 November

I am immensely proud of what we have achieved being the first Community Wealth Building in Scotland therefore, it was great to get the opportunity to visit some of the local businesses who are at the heart of our CWB journey. James Frew, Core Timber Systems and Ayrshire Blinds all represent the best of the Ayrshire economy. All local businesses that are committed to our region, bringing investment and jobs to the local area. Each are being supported by the Council's excellent Business Team, and they offer real examples of what Community Wealth Building looks like on the ground - local businesses supporting local jobs

It was great to have the opportunity to go along with our Executive Director for PLACE, Russell McCutcheon and physically meet with the companies to hear what it has been like for them the past 18 months during Covid, how they have adapted and their aspirations for the future.

Also, my thanks to our fantastic Business Team for the help and support they have provided to all our businesses here in North Ayrshire.

COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING EXPERT PANEL MEETING, 12 November

I attended a meeting of our Community Wealth Building Expert Panel on 12 November to discuss primarily the work around our Ayrshire Community Wealth Building Anchor Charter which was launched in October 2020 during Challenge Poverty Week. The purpose of the Charter is to encourage Ayrshire Anchor Institutions to support the principles of CWB by

committing to several pledges aligned to the five pillars of CWB and a sixth “pillar” of Climate Action. In 2020, seven Anchors signed up to the Charter: North, South and East Ayrshire Councils, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, Ayrshire College, Scottish Enterprise and The Ayrshire Community Trust (TACT). Most recently during Challenge Poverty Week 2021, the Integration Joint Boards of East, South and North Ayrshire Councils agreed to sign the Anchor Charter

Earlier in October 2021, marking one year since the launch of the Charter, all Anchor Charter signatories completed a template outlining progress against the Anchor Charter pledges. Although Police Scotland have not yet signed the Charter, officers have undertaken a partial progress update against the pledges.

It was agreed the Charter progress templates would be analysed further to extract key areas for collaboration and engagement. Progress on the Charter pledges will be presented to the CWB Commission at its next meeting on 10 December 2021.

SCOTLAND EXCEL SUB COMMITTEE, 19 November

On 19 November I attended a meeting of the Scotland Excel Sub Committee to discuss the following:

- Corporate Services (Including Digital)
- Supply Teacher Booking system (SEEMIS)
- Technology Enabled Care Framework –
- Other ICT development activity
- Corporate Developments
- Care Services
- Children's Services
- Construction Transport and Environment
- Contract Delivery Plan Update
- Supply Chain Disruption

It is worth noting some of the concerns around Supply Chain disruption due to the following:

- Economic growth accelerating as covid restrictions ease.
- Increase demand and shortages of construction materials, packaging, ship containers and food
- Energy and fuel rapid inflation – in last 12 months crude oil up 50%, packaging 70%, overall inflation 2.1% to 2.5%. Consensus is it will continue to rise.
- Shortage of material key driver to slowing recovery
- Second fastest inflation rate in 25 years (goods-based frameworks, building and timber materials greatest degree of disruption).

However, working groups with suppliers have now been set up to mitigate any potential risks.

COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING AND PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING EVENTS, 19, 20 & 23 November

I was delighted to take part in three separate events about Community Wealth Building and Participatory Budgeting. These were important events where I was able to highlight the importance of community power and the part it has to play in CWB. The three events were:

- Centre for Local Economic Strategies Community Wealth Building Summit on 19 November
- Co-operative Party Local Government conference on 20 November
- PB Works and Development NI webinar on 23 November

COSLA LEADERS, 26 November

On 26 November I attended COSLA Leaders to discuss a packed agenda including some of the following items:

- Affordable Housing Supply Programme
- Draft National Planning Framework
- Local Government Finance Update
- Employability Funding
- Expansion of Universal Free School Meals
- Education Scotland and Scottish Qualifications Authority: Consultation
- 20% Car Km Reduction by 2030 Joint
- COSLA-Scottish Government Route map
- Support for Destitute People with No Recourse to Public Funds
- National Workforce Strategy for Health and Social Care

COSLA CONVENTION, 26 November

Following on from COSLA Leaders, I attended the COSLA Convention to receive updates on the following:

- COSLA's Audited Financial Statements for Year Ending 31 March 2021
- COSLA Constitution Update
- COP 26
- Councillor Safety
- Incorporation of the European Charter of Local Self Government

During COP26 COSLA ran a social media campaign #LocalGovScot to highlight the work of Scottish local authorities in leading the just transition to net zero. The campaign aimed to demonstrate the extensive efforts of local authorities in tackling climate change across a wide range of service areas and promote the importance of Local Government in the context of COP26 talks. The campaign involved video statements from all COSLA spokespersons which were played during the COSLA event at the Lighthouse. I am pleased to say that North Ayrshire Council was included in the social media campaign and are aiming to be net zero by 2030.

FINALLY

It has been another difficult year for many of us; starting the year in lockdown, students doing much of their schoolwork from home and many businesses struggling to stay afloat.

I believe that despite difficulties and changes, North Ayrshire Council has adapted well to continue to deliver much-needed services and to continue to help those in our communities.

Every year I thank Council staff for their hard work and dedication but again this year they have gone over and beyond. On behalf of all the Elected Members here in North Ayrshire, I would like to thank you all for continuing to deliver vital services and support to our communities under the most difficult circumstances. It has been truly incredible.

I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope that this year, unlike last, you will be able to spend it with family, friends and loved ones.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Joe Cullinane'.

Councillor Joe Cullinane
Leader North Ayrshire Council

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

8 December 2021

North Ayrshire Council

Title: **Appointment of Statutory Officer- Chief Social Work Officer**

Purpose: To advise of the appointment of the Chief Social Work Officer.

Recommendation: To note the appointment of Scott Hunter as the Council's Chief Social Work Officer in terms of section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council is obliged by section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1988 to appoint a Chief Social Work Officer. Following the retirement of the previous postholder, this post was filled on an interim basis. An appointment to the permanent role has been made by the Staffing and Recruitment Committee following interviews held on 22 October 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 The role of Chief Social Work Officer is a statutory appointment in terms of section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1988. The duties of this post are set out in Section 13 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation to Officers.
- 2.2 The Chief Social Work Officer is appointed for the purposes of the Council's functions under the 1968 Act and under those other enactments listed in Section 5(1B) of that Act. In broad terms, those functions cover all social work and social care services whether provided directly by the Council, are delegated to the North Ayrshire Integration Joint Board, are delivered by North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership or another Health and Social Care Partnership on a Lead basis, in partnership with other agencies, or procured by the Council and provided by others on its behalf. Those functions are referred to in the Scheme of Delegation to Officers as "social work services".
- 2.3 The qualifications required for the post are set out in the Qualifications of Chief Social Work Officers (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I. 1996/515 (1996/49)).
- 2.4 The Chief Social Work Officer is a "proper officer" of the Council in relation to its social work functions. By virtue of section 2(1)(b) and (6)(c) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the post is designated as a politically restricted post, and accordingly, is included in the list of such posts required to be maintained by the Council.

2.5 Previously this post was held by David MacRitchie. On his retirement, the role was filled on an interim basis.

2.6 At its meeting on 22 October 2021, the Staffing and Recruitment Committee conducted interviews for the post of Chief Social Work Officer, agreeing to appoint Scott Hunter (currently CSWO with South Ayrshire Council) to the role. The appointment will take effect from 22 December 2021. The Chief Social Work Officer role is a stand-alone Chief Officer position working collaboratively across all social care services with a focus on professional practice and standards and with accountability for providing professional social work advice and support to the Council.

3. Proposals

3.1 To note the appointment of Scott Hunter as the Council's Chief Social Work Officer in terms of section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty.

Financial

4.1 None arising from this report.

Human Resources

4.2 The appointment removes the need for interim arrangements to cover the functions relating to the role of Chief Social Work Officer.

Legal

4.3 The Council has a statutory duty to appoint a Chief Social Work Officer in terms of section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

Equality/Socio-economic

4.4 None arising from this report.

Environmental and Sustainability

4.5 None arising from this report.

Key Priorities

4.6 None arising from this report.

Community Wealth Building

4.7 None arising from this report.

5. Consultation

5.1 None required in the preparation of this report.

Aileen Craig
Head of Democratic Services

For further information please contact Aileen Craig, **Head of Democratic Services**, on **01294 324125**.

Background Papers

1- Scheme of Delegation to Officers

8 December 2021

North Ayrshire Council

Title: **Hybrid Committee Meetings Pilot Update**

Purpose: To update the Council on the continued hybrid committee meetings pilot in November 2021.

Recommendation: That the Council agrees:

- (a) to note the outcome of the extended hybrid meetings pilot;
- (b) to pause the hybrid committee meetings pilot whilst the implications of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 are understood further; and
- (c) that a further review in respect of hybrid working be submitted to the next meeting of the Council for consideration.

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 At its meeting on 8 September 2021, the Council agreed to undertake a hybrid committee meetings pilot. The Licensing Committee and Integration Joint Board (IJB) were selected for inclusion in the pilot and their meetings held on 20 October
- 1.2 Learning from the pilot was set out in a report to the Council on 27 October 2021, together with recommendations for an extension. At this meeting, the Council agreed to extend the pilot of hybrid Licensing Committee and IJB meetings until the December 2021 Council meeting.
- 1.3 The outcome of the pilot, together with current Scottish Government guidance in light of the new Omicron variant of COVID-19, is set out in this report, for the Council's consideration.

2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on 8 September 2021, the Council received a report on progress in terms of the introduction of hybrid meetings. It was agreed that, as a pilot, meetings of the Licensing and Integration Joint Board should take place on a hybrid basis, with up to 50% of committee members able to attend in person and the remainder joining the meeting remotely via MS Teams. It was further agreed that the outcome be reported to the October 2021 Council meeting.

- 22 At its meeting on 27 October 2021, the Council received an update on the hybrid meetings pilot. A hybrid meetings protocol was attached as an Appendix to the report. The Council agreed as follows:
- (a) to note the outcome of the hybrid meetings pilot;
 - (b) to extend the pilot of Licensing Committee and Integration Joint Board hybrid meetings until the next Council meeting, subject to:
 - (i) consultation with the Health and Social Care Partnership with regard to the IJB arrangements;
 - (ii) hybrid meetings during the next stage of the pilot proceeding as “remote meetings (with physical participation)”, with no more than 50% of committee Members attending in person and on the basis that any failure of the hybrid equipment would result in the meeting reverting to a remote platform;
 - (iii) amendment of the hybrid meetings protocol set out at Appendix 1, to accommodate physical attendance by external parties in exceptional circumstances, as determined by officers;
 - (iv) the pilot being suspended in the event of a reintroduction of social distancing requirements; and
 - (v) the extent of the pilot being dependent on the availability of sufficient staff resources
 - (c) to receive a report on the outcome of the extended pilot thereafter.

Extended Pilot: Meeting Arrangements

- 23 Unfortunately, the Integration Joint Board meeting scheduled to take place as a hybrid meeting on 18 November 2021 was cancelled due to lack of business. However, the hybrid meeting of the Licensing Committee did proceed on 17 November 2021.
- 24 Further testing of the hybrid equipment in the Council Chambers took place prior to the Licensing Committee meeting and the system was found to be reliable.
- 25 A fresh risk assessment of the Council Chambers in light of updated Health and Safety Executive guidance is due to take place. However, at the time of the Licensing Committee meeting, no heating/air conditioning was permitted and windows required to be open during the meeting. As before, social distancing arrangements were also in place; physical attendees were required to wear a face covering when not seated; hand sanitiser was available on entry to the building; and the Chambers was subject to thorough cleaning before and after the meeting.
- 26 In accordance with the hybrid meeting protocol, physical attendees were asked to bring a device with them for use should the meeting require to revert to a wholly remote format via MS Teams.

Hybrid Pilot: Licensing Committee (17 November 2021)

- 27 By prior arrangement, three Members of the committee, including the Chair, attended the meeting in person, along with the Solicitor (Licensing). The remaining Members and an invited applicant, attended remotely via MS Teams.
- 28 Although it was agreed that provision would be made to support any applicant/licence-holder without their own device to join the meeting remotely from an adjacent committee room, this was not required and the party who did attend was able access the meeting themselves via MS Teams.
- 29 Due to the nature of the business under consideration, the Committee resolved to exclude the press and public and, therefore, no physical public gallery was required in the Council Chambers, nor was the meeting live-streamed.
- 210 Three Committee Services Officers managed the meeting: one undertook a traditional clerking role in the Chambers, a second operated the hybrid equipment (also in the Chambers), and a third joined remotely via MS Teams. A member of the Licensing team also assisted with admitting parties to hearings at the appropriate time and ensuring they had left prior to the committee's deliberation.
- 211 The meeting was fairly short, with limited business considered. The hybrid equipment operated successfully, with remote and physical attendees able to see and hear each other. The external party was able to join, leave and re-join the meeting when invited to do so at the appropriate times. (There was a minor issue around screen-sharing to present background papers, but this was unrelated to the hybrid system itself and, since the papers in question had already been circulated, Members were able to refer to them independently).
- 212 Following the meeting, Members (both remote and physical attendees) were invited to provide feedback on their experience. The individual points made by four Members are summarised below:
- The hybrid model provides no real advantage over a totally online Teams meeting.
 - We are urged by the Government to continue to work from home if possible in view of the disturbing COVID figures, so it is of concern not only that Members are meeting face-to-face, but that staff are having to attend in person to facilitate this type of meeting. Until it is deemed safe for us all to attend in person, it would save resources and prevent unnecessary risk of infection if the Teams model was reinstated.
 - The hybrid meeting is more efficient than a Teams meeting held remotely. The meeting ran efficiently, advice could be sought immediately from the Solicitor present, and comments were received from Members present. Meetings requiring legal advice are more efficient when held by this system.
 - The test will possibly be at the next meeting when there is an item which could have a large number of objectors who may wish to attend in person. Some may not have an internet connection and the Chair has discretion to allow an objector to address the committee in person.
 - Hybrid meetings do not necessarily result in increased travelling expenses where Members regard Cunninghame House as their place of employment and, on that basis, do not claim such expenses

- If the hybrid system is not tested, it will lie dormant and be a waste of money. The system could be used by the Provost and officers for the full Council meeting.
- I am very much in favour of the hybrid style of meetings.
- I thought the meeting went very well. It was my first so I was impressed with how it was set up and how smoothly it all went. I am happy to stay at home in the mean time until things change for us all.

Learning Points

- 2.13 There were no significant learning points arising from the extension of the pilot, beyond the matters highlighted in the previous report.
- 2.14 The recent emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 is of relevance at this time, particularly taking into account the additional pressures already likely to be faced by the health service during the winter months. The Scottish Government has recently urged the redoubling of efforts to follow guidance which is aimed at minimizing transmission, including working from home where possible.

2.15 On the one hand:

- ongoing informal testing of the hybrid system during the pilot has provided reassurance as to its reliability; and
- there are suitable contingency arrangements in place (namely reverting to wholly remote) in the event of a system failure

2.16 On the other hand:

- Scottish Government advice remains to work from home where possible and this is of particular relevance given the emergence of the new Omicron variant of COVID-19 and the additional strain on the NHS over the winter period; and
- the level of staffing required to run a hybrid meeting also remains relevant, particularly if hybrid meetings were to be rolled out

3. Proposals

3.1 The Council is invited to:

- (a) to note the outcome of the extended hybrid meetings pilot;
- (b) to pause the hybrid committee meetings pilot whilst the implications of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 are understood further; and
- (c) that a further review in respect of hybrid working be submitted to the next meeting of the Council for consideration.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

- 4.1 Prior to COVID-19, only meetings of the Council, Cabinet and Integration Joint Board were webcast, but it is assumed that webcasting/live-streaming will be expected as a matter of course in future. Additional webcasting hours have been purchased to accommodate this in the interim and this can be built into the retendering exercise for webcasting with effect from June 2022. These hours can be used to stream wholly physical, wholly remote or hybrid meetings.
- 4.2 Remote meetings have reduced expenditure on Elected Member travel. The resumption of physical attendance could increase such costs where Members claim them.

Human Resources

- 4.3 Current Scottish Government guidance has emphasised the importance of homeworking where possible. In addition, remote/hybrid meetings are more resource-intensive than physical meetings. The Committee Services team comprises four Committee Services Officers and each hybrid meeting is currently supported by three CSOs.

Legal

Room Temperature/Working Conditions

- 4.4 The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 lay down particular requirements for most aspects of the working environment and Regulation 7 deals specifically with the temperature in indoor workplaces, stating that "During working hours, the temperature in all workplaces inside buildings shall be reasonable." Although the law does not state a minimum or maximum temperature for working environments, the temperature would normally be expected to be at least 16°C (or 13°C if much of the work involves rigorous physical effort).
- 4.5 However, COVID-19 brings exceptional circumstances and, as there is the possibility of more harm occurring from COVID-19 than cooler air, closing the windows during meetings in the Council Chambers to bring the room to what might be considered a more reasonable temperature, has not been permitted.
- 4.6 Recently updated guidance from the HSE has indicated that air-conditioning systems may be suitable for use where other mitigating measures to ensure adequate fresh air are in place. Each location would require to be risk assessed and solutions would be specific to individual circumstances. Corporate Health and Safety and Property Management and Investment are currently reviewing what measures will be applicable and in what circumstances.
- 4.7 Once the Council Chambers risk assessment has been reviewed in light of the updated guidance, it may be possible to reinstate the air conditioning, subject to suitable mitigation. However, it is recognised that HSE guidance may be further revised in light of case numbers and the Omicron variant

Remote and Hybrid Meetings

- 4.6 The Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003 permits the holding of and participation in remote meetings. The Council's Standing Orders were varied using the Chief Executive's urgency powers to mirror the terms of the Act and facilitate the holding of remote and/or hybrid meetings. [The Standing Orders relating to the Integration Joint Board already include a general provision which encompasses remote or hybrid meetings]. In terms of Section 43(2) of the 2003 Act, the decision on whether a meeting is remote or hybrid is for the Provost or relevant committee Chair and the report, therefore, recommends that officers liaise with Chairs regarding the meetings to be included in the pilot.

Public Gallery Provision

- 4.7 Part 4 of schedule 6 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 contains temporary modifications to Section 50A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 by adding an additional ground for the exclusion of the public from meetings of Local Authorities where there would be a "real or substantial risk" to public health due to infection or contamination with coronavirus. There is no distinction between virtual and physical Local Authority meetings within the temporary grounds (although it is difficult, of course, to make the case that there would be a 'real or substantial risk' associated with the public attending a remote meeting).
- 4.8 The temporary power to exclude the public from Local Authority meetings on coronavirus grounds was enforceable under Part 1 of the 2020 Act. Parts of the Act, including this power, expired on 30 September. It is understood that the Scottish Government is preparing further primary legislation although the terms of this are currently unknown. It is the view of the Council's Legal service that, by streaming its Teams meetings to the Council's website, the Council is effectively admitting the public to its remote meetings.
- 4.9 Whilst live streaming of remote meetings is likely to constitute public access to a meeting of the Council or its committees held on a wholly remote basis, it is logical to assume that the resumption of physical meetings or the introduction of hybrid meetings should include some public gallery provision even if live streaming continues.

Equality/Socio-economic

- 4.10 In the absence of a physical public gallery provision, some members of the public without IT equipment are disadvantaged by not being able to observe the proceedings, albeit that hard-copy Agendas and Minutes continue to be available on request. The reintroduction of a small physical public gallery as part of the hybrid pilot addresses this, as does a provision within the hybrid protocol which allows for assistance to be provided by officers in exceptional circumstances where an invited party to a meeting/hearing has no suitable device.
- 4.11 At the same time, there may some equalities advantages associated with live-streaming meetings of the Council and committees in terms of offering easier/more extensive access to meetings than would be afforded by a small public gallery.

Environmental and Sustainability

- 4.12 Reintroducing a physical attendance element to meetings of the Council and its committees would have a small negative impact associated with travel to and from meetings.
- 4.13 Similarly, there will be some negative impact in the event that additional heating is required within the Chambers while windows are open.

Key Priorities

- 4.14 None arising from the recommendations set out in this report.

Community Wealth Building

- 4.15 None arising from the recommendations set out in this report.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 Members of the Licensing Committee were invited to provide feedback on the hybrid pilot. Feedback from the four Members who responded is summarised within the body of the report, at Section 2.12.
- 5.2 Consultation has also taken place with colleagues within Legal Services and Corporate Health and Safety/ Property Management and Investment with regard to Section 4 of the report.

Aileen Craig
Head of Democratic Services

For further information please contact Melanie Anderson, Senior Manager (Committee and Member Services), on melanieanderson@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Background Papers

Feedback from Members of the Licensing Committee

Information from Property Management and Investment with regard to HSE guidance

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

8 December 2021

North Ayrshire Council

Title:	Highlands & Islands Regional Economic Partnership
Purpose:	To provide the Council with an overview of the developing proposals for a Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership.
Recommendation:	<p>That the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) agrees to participate in the Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership; b) notes that by participating in the proposed Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership, North Ayrshire Council will help shape and refine the proposed operating and governance arrangements; and c) agrees (i) to appoint the Cabinet Member for Post-Covid Renewal and the Islands as the Council's representative on the Partnership and (ii) delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make officer appointments to the Partnership

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Scottish Government is committed to establishing Regional Economic Partnerships (REP) across all of Scotland. The broad objectives of REPs are to bring regional interests together to help drive economic growth through the alignment of resources and through collaborations between Government, agencies, academia and the private sector.
- 1.2 In 2018, the three Ayrshire Councils agreed to implement a new Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership governance structure to oversee the delivery of the Ayrshire Growth Deal and to promote the objectives of the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership to achieve a step change in the performance of the Ayrshire economy and its contribution to the national economy.
- 1.3 It is proposed that a Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership (HIREP) is established to focus on inclusive and sustainable economic growth and build resilience throughout the region, by identifying and focussing on areas of joint strategic purpose to provide co-ordinated action in pursuit of regional growth opportunities and to address shared challenges.

By participating in the proposed Highlands and Islands REP, North Ayrshire representatives will be able to play an active role in shaping and refining its purpose and terms of reference.

- 1.4 Council representation on the HIREP will be required at senior political and officer level.

2. Background

- 2.1 There is currently no dedicated Regional Economic Partnership for the Highlands and Islands region and the Convention of the Highlands and Islands (COHI) agreed that Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) should undertake initial work to scope out proposals and draft terms of reference for the establishment of a Highlands and Islands REP.
- 2.2 The Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership's (HIREP) proposed purpose is to enable inclusive and sustainable economic growth and build resilience throughout the region, by identifying and focussing on areas of joint strategic purpose to provide co-ordinated action in pursuit of regional growth opportunities and to address shared challenges. It is considered that the HIREP can complement and add value to the work of existing local authority area groupings by enabling a co-ordination of approach across shared opportunities and challenges and facilitating activity across local authority boundaries, where appropriate.
- 2.4 The HIREP will fulfil its purpose through:
 - Identifying opportunities for collaborative and co-ordinated action in pursuit of agreed regional priorities
 - Advocating on agreed regional economic opportunities and challenges, and where appropriate leading in discussions with Scottish Government, UK Government and other organisations
 - Being future focused in looking ahead to identify emerging regional opportunities and challenges where collaborative action can maximise outcomes and impact.
 - Working to understand evolving approaches to external funding and reacting to maximise impact across all parts of the region
 - Understanding sub-regional economic dynamics and, where appropriate, formulating solidarity actions to ensure that no part of the Highlands and Islands is left behind

The present draft version of the terms of reference is not yet agreed and will require further negotiation to ensure that all partners agree with the remit of the HIREP, its operating principles and governance procedures. The draft terms of reference will be further refined as the HIREP is established and thereafter referred to Councils for ratification as appropriate. By participating in the proposed HIREP, North Ayrshire representatives will be able to play an active role in shaping and refining the agreed terms of reference. Participation in the HIREP will contribute to strengthening the island voices of the North Ayrshire islands, ensuring the unique challenges and opportunities faced by islanders are reflected in national and local policy.

2.5 Membership of the Highlands and Islands REP is likely to comprise Highlands and Islands Local Authorities, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Funding Council, University of the Highlands and Islands, Nature

Scotland, HITRANS, Private sector representation, Third Sector / Social Economy representation and other agencies to be confirmed e.g. Visit Scotland, Zero Waste Scotland, Scottish Forestry, Crown Estate Scotland.

- 2.6 It is proposed that each Local Authority be represented at senior political and officer level. It is therefore suggested that Council considers appointing the Cabinet Member for Post-Covid Renewal and the Islands to attend the HIREP as the Council's senior political representative and delegates authority to the Chief Executive to attend and/or make officer appointments to the HIREP as appropriate.
- 2.7 North Ayrshire Council is also a member of the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership with Arran and Cumbrae considered within the geography of the Ayrshire region and within the scope of associated strategic plans and activities. Highlands and Islands Enterprise also attend the Ayrshire REP in recognition of their role in supporting the Arran and Cumbrae economy. Any implications from the overlap between the 2 Regional Economic Partnerships will be kept under review. This is likely to be further informed by the roll out of the new Shared Prosperity Fund and the detail of how that fund will be administered within Scotland and across different geographies.

3. Proposals

3.1 That the Council:

- a) agrees to participate in the Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership;
- b) notes that by participating in the proposed Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership, North Ayrshire Council will help shape and refine the proposed operating and governance arrangements; and
- c) agrees to (i) appoint the Cabinet Member for Post-Covid Renewal and the Islands as the Council's political representative on the Partnership and (ii) delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make officer appointments to the Partnership.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

4.1 None.

Human Resources

4.2 None.

Legal

4.3 None.

Equality/Socio-economic

4.4 None.

Environmental and Sustainability

4.5 None.

Key Priorities

4.6 The report covers information relevant to the following Council Plan priorities:

- North Ayrshire has an inclusive, growing and enterprising economy

Community Wealth Building

4.7 Further work will be required to understand the opportunities and impact that a Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership can contribute to delivering Community Wealth Building across the region.

5. Consultation

5.1 Engagement has taken place with the Cabinet Member for Post-Covid Renewal and the Islands and Senior Officers.

CRAIG HATTON
Chief Executive

For further information please contact Craig Hatton, Chief Executive on 01294 324124 .

Background Papers

None

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

8 December 2021

North Ayrshire Council

Title:	The Boundary Commission for Scotland: 2023 Review of UK Parliament Boundaries in Scotland
Purpose:	To advise Council of the Boundary Commission for Scotland's 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland.
Recommendation:	That Council a) notes the Boundary Commission for Scotland's 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies and that currently the four Ayrshire Parliament Constituencies remain unchanged; and b) agrees to receive further updates as the Review progresses.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Boundary Commission for Scotland began its 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland in January 2021. Scotland has been allocated 57 Constituencies for the 2023 Review, two less than at present. England has been allocated 543 (+10), Northern Ireland 18 (no change) and Wales 32 (-8).
- 1.2 Each Constituency must contain no less than 697,724 Parliamentary electors, and no more than 77,062 except two 'protected' constituencies of Na h-Eileanan an Iar (the West Isles) and Orkney and Shetland.
- 1.3 The Commission published its initial proposals for an 8-week consultation on 14 October 2021. However, there are **no proposed changes to any of the four Ayrshire UK Parliament Constituencies**.
- 1.4 In early 2022, the Commission will publish all the comments received during the initial consultation and will invite the public and other interested parties to make any further comments on these. At this time, they will also hold between two and five public hearings. In late 2022, the Commission may publish revised proposals for consultation. The Commission will submit final recommendations to the UK Parliament by 1 July 2023

2. Background

- 2.1 The Boundary Commission for Scotland is an independent advisory non-departmental public body sponsored and funded by the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland. The role of the Boundary Commission for Scotland is to review the boundaries of the UK Parliament Constituencies within Scotland.

- 2.2 For the avoidance of confusion, Boundaries Scotland (formerly the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland) is a separate Commission which is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations for Constituencies and Regions of the Scottish Parliament; the number of Councillors on each Council in a local government area; the number of wards for local government elections and their boundaries; and the extent of Council areas.
- 2.3 The four UK Boundary Commissions (Scotland; England; Northern Ireland; and Wales) began reviews of UK Parliament Constituencies in both 2011 and 2016 that would have reduced the total number of UK Parliament Constituencies from 650 to 600. Neither of these Reviews resulted in changes to Constituencies, as they were, respectively, cancelled by changes to legislation and not implemented by the UK Parliament.
- 2.4 The existing UK Parliament Constituencies have therefore remained unchanged since 2005 and were used in the 2005, 2010, 2015, 2017 and 2019 UK Parliament General Elections.
- 2.5 The 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies is required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended). The 2023 Review is being conducted simultaneously and independently by the four UK Boundary Commissions in their respective countries. The Review requires to take account of changes in population size and distribution.
- 2.6 In terms of the 2023 Review, the UK Parliament will retain 650 Constituencies. England has been allocated 543 (an increase of 10), Northern Ireland has been allocated 18 (no change), Wales has been allocated 32 (a reduction of 8) and Scotland has been allocated 57 (a reduction of 2). Two of the Scottish Constituencies - Na h-Eileanan an Iar (the Western Isles) and Orkney and Shetland are protected by legislation and cannot be changed.
- 2.7 Due to the reduction in the number of UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland, significant changes to existing Constituencies are required. The Commission considers several factors when determining Constituencies incorporating geographical considerations, which include the size, shape, and accessibility of a Constituency; boundaries of Council areas and electoral wards; existing UK Parliament Constituency Boundaries and any local ties which would be broken by changes in Constituencies.
- 2.8 The electorate of every Constituency in Scotland, with the exception of the two protected Constituencies, must be between 69,724 and 77,062 electors, i.e. within 5% of the UK-wide electoral quota of 73,393, unless its area exceeds 12,000 square kilometres. No constituency may exceed 13,000 square kilometres.
- 2.9 On 14 October 2021, the Boundary Commission for Scotland published its initial proposal for the UK Parliament Boundaries in Scotland and invited comments from the public until 8 December 2021.
- 2.10 The Council has supported the Boundary Commission for Scotland in publicising their initial proposals via Press Releases to the local media and by sharing these via our Corporate and Communities social media channels. Links to the Commission's Consultation website were also shared with Community Councils and details of the consultation have been published on Consul, the Council's Consultation Portal.

2.11 The Commission has developed its initial proposals in Council area groupings. These are:-

- One Constituency within East Renfrewshire council area;
- Four Constituencies within East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;
- Seven Constituencies within City of Edinburgh, East Lothian and Midlothian council areas;
- Nine Constituencies within Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas;
- Nine Constituencies within Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Argyll and Bute, Highland and Moray council areas;
- Twelve Constituencies within Dumfries and Galloway, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire and Scottish Borders council areas; and
- Thirteen Constituencies within Fife, Perth and Kinross, Clackmannanshire, Falkirk, Stirling, Angus, Dundee City and West Lothian council areas.

2.12 As stated in paragraph 2.6, there are two other Constituencies in Scotland Na h-Eileanan an Iar (Western Isles) Constituency and Orkney and Shetland Constituency, both of which are protected by legislation.

2.13 A table outlining the initial proposals for the 57 UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland is attached at Appendix 1. The **four Ayrshire UK Parliament Constituencies (North Ayrshire and Arran; Central Ayrshire; Ayr, Carrick & Cumnock; and Kilmarnock and Loudoun) are unchanged**. Boundary maps of the four Ayrshire UK Parliament Constituencies are also attached at Appendices 2a to 2d.

2.14 In terms of next steps, the Boundary Commission for Scotland will hold a secondary six-week consultation period in early 2022 (dates to be confirmed). At the start of this consultation period, the Commission will publish all comments received in terms of its initial proposals. The Commission will also hold between two and five Public Hearings (to be confirmed).

2.15 After the secondary consultation period, the Commission will consider all evidence and comments received. If the Commission decides to alter their Initial Proposals, they will publish the resulting Revised proposals for a 4-week public consultation later in 2022.

2.16 After the consultation period on the Revised proposals, the Commission will develop Final Recommendations and submit these to the Speaker of the House of Commons by 1 July 2023.

3. Proposals

3.1 That Council a) notes the Boundary Commission for Scotland's 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies and that currently the four Ayrshire Parliament Constituencies remain unchanged; and b) agrees to receive further updates as the Review progresses.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Human Resources

4.2 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

Legal

4.3 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Equality/Socio-economic

4.4 There are no equality/socio-economic implications arising directly from this report.

Environmental and Sustainability

4.5 There are no environmental/sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

Key Priorities

4.6 There are no implications for key priorities arising directly from this report.

Community Wealth Building

4.7 There are no community wealth building implications arising directly from this report.

5. Consultation

5.1 Consultation has taken place with the Electoral Registration Officer for Ayrshire.

Aileen Craig
Head of Service (Democratic)

For further information please contact **Barry Tudhope, Senior Manager (Corporate Policy, Performance & Elections)**, on **(01294) 324113**.

Background Papers

The Boundary Commission for Scotland's full initial proposals are available at:
www.bcs2023review.com

Boundary Commission for Scotland
2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies - Initial Proposals

There are currently no changes to the four Ayrshire UK Parliament Constituencies

Proposed constituencies

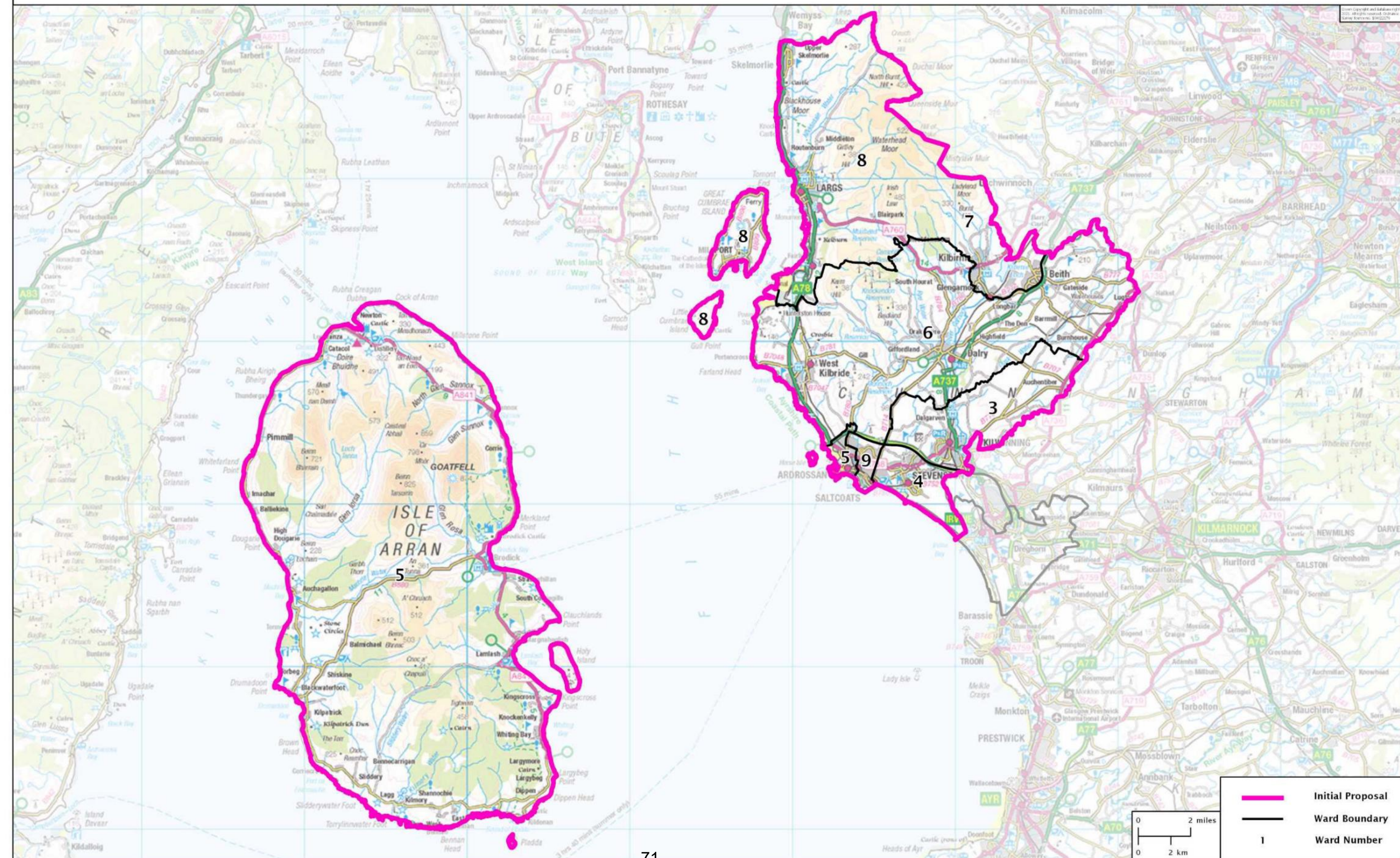
	Constituency Name	Electorate	Area (sq. km)	Designation
1	Aberdeen North	76,895	104	Burgh
2	Aberdeen South	76,560	102	Burgh
3	Airdrie and Shotts	72,775	239	County
4	Angus and Strathmore	74,051	2891	County
5	Argyll	71,442	9294	County
6	Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	72,057	1636	County
7	Banff and Buchan	72,837	1451	County
8	Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk	73,779	3764	County
9	Central Ayrshire	69,779	237	County
10	Coatbridge and Bellshill	72,332	69	Burgh
11	Dumfries and Galloway	74,916	3844	County
12	Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale	73,593	4809	County
13	Dundee East and Arbroath	75,706	184	County
14	Dundee West and Gowrie	76,771	181	County
15	East Kilbride and Strathaven	75,161	305	County
16	East Lothian Coast	73,939	693	County
17	East Renfrewshire	72,959	174	County
18	Edinburgh East	73,187	32	Burgh
19	Edinburgh North and Leith	76,543	20	Burgh
20	Edinburgh South	70,893	31	Burgh
21	Edinburgh South West	73,315	90	Burgh
22	Edinburgh West	76,903	108	Burgh
23	Forth Valley South	76,431	182	County
24	Glasgow Central	72,600	26	Burgh
25	Glasgow East	72,384	42	Burgh
26	Glasgow North	73,316	28	Burgh
27	Glasgow South	70,191	27	Burgh
28	Glasgow South West	71,584	29	Burgh
29	Glasgow West	71,493	19	Burgh
30	Glenrothes and Loch Leven	74,155	368	County
31	Gordon and Moray South	73,121	3151	County
32	Hamilton and Clyde Valley	74,577	258	County
33	Highland Central	75,651	8717	County
34	Highland East and Elgin	72,038	3570	County
35	Highland North	76,654	12781	County
36	Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir	70,476	218	County
37	Kelvin North	70,773	202	County
38	Kelvin South	74,905	94	Burgh
39	Kilmarnock and Loudoun	74,801	702	County
40	Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath	74,637	154	County
41	Linlithgow and Bathgate	73,710	233	County
42	Livingston	73,394	232	County
43	Mid Forth Valley	74,126	263	County
44	Midlothian	71,210	355	County
45	Motherwell and Clydesdale North	70,138	214	County
46	<i>Na h-Eileanan an Iar</i>	<i>21,177</i>	<i>3267</i>	<i>County</i>

Boundary Commission for Scotland
2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies - Initial Proposals

47	North Ayrshire and Arran	73,588	834	County
48	North East Fife	70,452	824	County
49	<i>Orkney and Shetland</i>	<i>34,824</i>	<i>2744</i>	<i>County</i>
50	Perth and Tay	74,589	4156	County
51	Renfrew North	69,899	79	Burgh
52	Renfrew South	69,797	150	County
53	Rutherglen	71,612	41	Burgh
54	Stirling	70,085	2255	County
55	West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	73,634	3272	County
56	West Dunbartonshire	71,186	184	County
57	West Fife	70,011	299	County

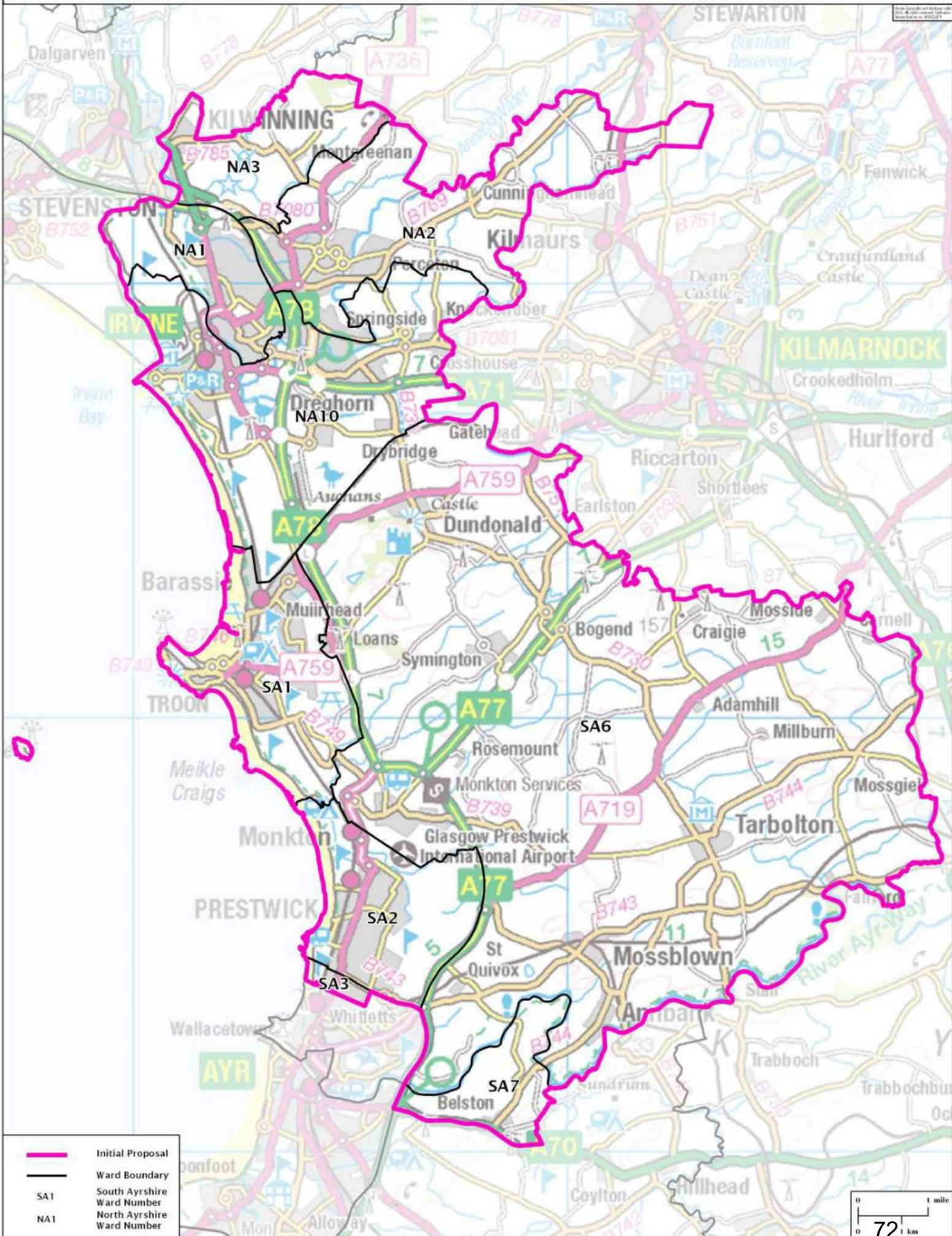
2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies - Initial Proposals

North Ayrshire and Arran County Constituency - Electorate 73,588



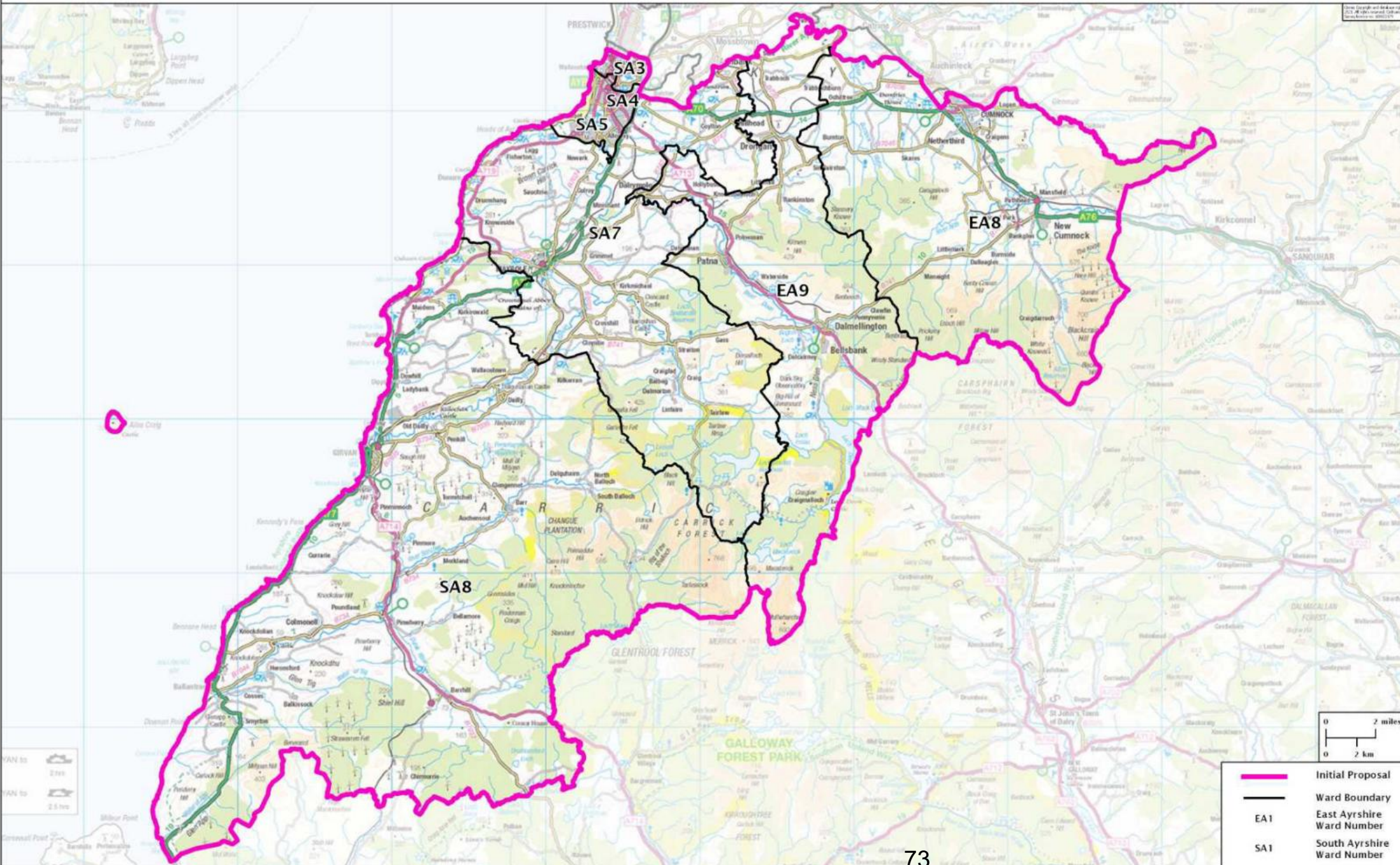
2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies - Initial Proposals

Central Ayrshire County Constituency - Electorate 69,779



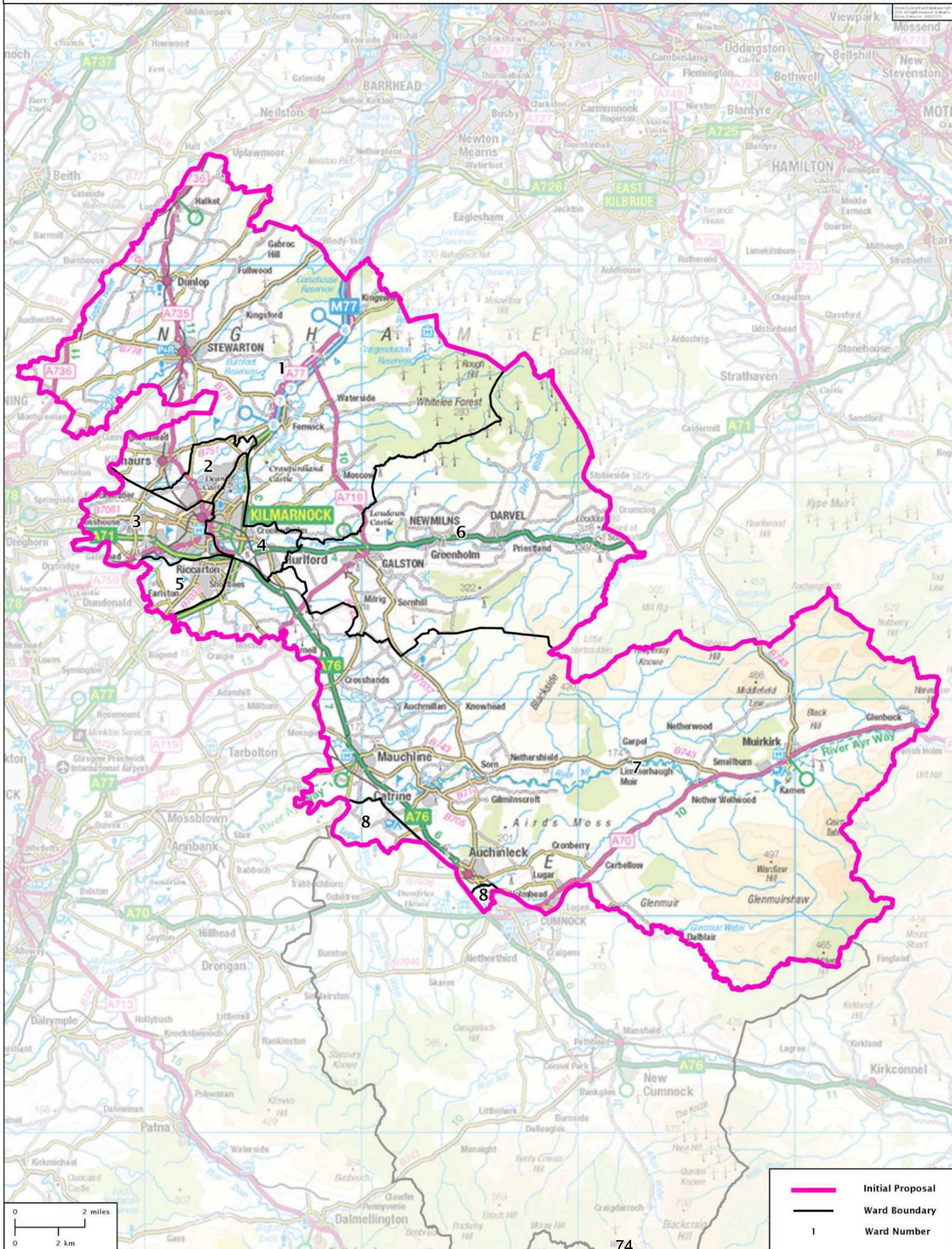
2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies - Initial Proposals

Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock County Constituency - Electorate 72,057



2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies - Initial Proposals

Kilmarnock and Loudoun County Constituency - Electorate 74,801



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

8 December 2021

North Ayrshire Council

Title:	Boundaries Scotland: 2019 Review of Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council Area
Purpose:	To advise Council of the new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area following a Review by Boundaries Scotland.
Recommendation:	That Council notes the new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area which come into force on Thursday 5 May 2022.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Boundaries Scotland commenced its 2019 Review of Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area in January 2019. They consulted with the Council on Councillor Numbers, Number of Electoral Wards and Ward Boundaries during July – September 2020. Following a minor amendment suggested by Council, there was an extensive public consultation exercise during November 2020 and January 2021.
- 1.2 The Scottish Government agreed Boundaries Scotland's proposed Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council Area in October 2022.
- 1.3 The new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council are set out in this report and will come into force on Thursday 5 May 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 Boundaries Scotland (formerly known as the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland) is an independent, non-political statutory body responsible for carrying out review of Councillor numbers and electoral wards for Council areas. Boundaries Scotland is also responsible for carrying out reviews of Council area boundaries and of constituencies and regions for the Scottish Parliament.
- 2.2. In terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (as Amended), Boundaries Scotland is required to conduct Electoral Reviews of each Council area every 15 years. The reason for this is that population and therefore electorate figures in all local authority areas is constantly changing. As a result of population changes, some Councillors may represent considerably more or fewer electors than other Councillors in the same Council area.

- 2.3 When reviewing Electoral Arrangements, Boundaries Scotland is required to take account of several factors: -
- The interests of effective and convenient local government.
 - Within each Council, each Councillor should represent as closely as possible the same number of electors.
 - Local ties which would be broken by making a particular boundary.
 - The desirability of fixing boundaries that are easily identifiable.
 - Special geographical consideration.
- 2.4 The current Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area (i.e., 10 Wards and 33 Elected Members) were formed in 2017 and used for the Local Government Elections that year.
- 2.5 The Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 required Boundaries Scotland to review the Electoral Arrangements for the six Councils containing inhabited islands (Argyll and Bute, Highland, North Ayrshire, Orkney, Shetland, and Na h-Eileannan an Iar) as soon as practicable. The Act also allows for the creation of wards that elect one or two councillors in wards which contain inhabited islands as well as the two, three, four or five councillor wards permitted elsewhere in Scotland as a result of the Scottish Elections (Reform) Act 2020.
- 2.6 Boundaries Scotland commenced its 2019 Review of Electoral Arrangements in North Ayrshire in January 2019. They consulted with the Council on their initial proposals for a 2-month period from 16 July to 30 September 2020.
- 2.7 The Council at its meeting on 23 September 2020 agreed a response supporting Boundaries Scotland's proposed Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area and suggested a minor amendment to the proposed ward boundary in the hills between Fairlie and Kilbirnie so that it matched the Council's Locality boundary.
- 2.8 This suggested amendment was adopted by Boundaries Scotland in October 2020 as the change in boundary better reflects local ties.
- 2.9 A 12-week public consultation then ran from 4 November 2020 to 26 January 2021. During this time Boundaries Scotland issued news releases to the Arran Banner, Irvine Times, Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald and Largs & Millport Weekly News. They also wrote to Community Councils and sent posters and further information regarding the Review to 40 display points (such as community halls and leisure centres) across North Ayrshire and paid for social media advertising on Facebook and Twitter.
- 2.10 There were 72 responses to the public consultation. Overall, most responses supported the proposed Ward boundaries and retaining the existing number of Councillors. Arran was the most commented on area with support for Arran and Ardrossan being placed in separate wards.
- 2.11 Boundaries Scotland considered all comments submitted by the public and presented their finalised proposals for the North Ayrshire Council area to Scottish Ministers in June 2021. These finalised proposals were approved by Ministers on 27 October 2021.

- 2.12 On 11 November 2021, the Chief Executive, in his capacity as Returning Officer, and the Electoral Registration Officer for Ayrshire received formal notification from the Scottish Government that the new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council areas would come into force for the purposes of an Election for which the date of Poll is on or after 5 May 2022.
- 2.13 The new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area are summarised in Table 1 below. The table details Ward No., Ward Name, No. of Councillors to be Elected and a description of the Ward. Ward Boundary maps are also attached at Appendices 1a to 1j.

TABLE 1: North Ayrshire Council Electoral Arrangements from 5 May 2022 (9 Wards & 33 Councillors – see Appendix 1a)		
Ward No. & Name	No. of Cllrs to be Elected	Ward Description
Ward 1: North Coast	5	This Ward covers the same area as the Council's North Coast Locality. It contains all of the existing North Coast and Cumbraes Ward and a part of the existing Dalry and West Kilbride Ward. (Boundary Map at Appendix 1b)
Ward 2: Garnock Valley	5	This Ward covers the same area as the Council's Garnock Valley Locality. It contains all of the existing Kilbirnie and Beith Ward and a part of the existing Dalry and West Kilbride ward. (Boundary Map at Appendix 1c).
Ward 3: Ardrossan	3	This Ward follows the burgh boundary between Ardrossan and Saltcoats. This Ward and Ward 4 (Arran) replace the existing Island-Mainland Ardrossan and Arran Ward. The new Wards sits with the Saltcoats and Stevenston Ward within the Council's Three Towns Locality. (Boundary Map at Appendix 1d).
Ward 4: Arran	1	This Ward covers the same area as the Council's Arran Locality. It contains the inhabited islands of Arran and Holy Island. This Ward and Ward 3 (Ardrossan) replace the existing Island-Mainland Ardrossan and Arran Ward. (Boundary Map at Appendix 1e).

Ward No. & Name	No. of Cllrs to be Elected	Ward Description
Ward 5: Saltcoats and Stevenston	5	This Ward merges most of the existing Saltcoats Ward and Stevenston Ward to create a Saltcoats and Stevenston Ward. The Ward boundary follows the burgh boundary between Ardrossan and Saltcoats. The Ward sits with the Ardrossan Ward within the Council's Three Towns Locality. (Boundary Map at Appendix 1f).
Ward 6: Kilwinning	4	This Ward retains the existing Kilwinning Ward, with the name, boundary, and number of Councillors unchanged. The Ward covers the same area as the Council's Kilwinning Locality. (Boundary Map at Appendix 1g).
Ward 7: Irvine West	4	This Ward retains the existing Irvine West Ward, with the name, boundary, and number of Councillors unchanged. The Ward sits within the Council's Irvine Locality with the other two Irvine Wards (Irvine East and Irvine South). (Boundary Map at Appendix 1h).
Ward 8: Irvine East	3	This Ward retains the existing Irvine East Ward, with the name, boundary, and number of Councillors unchanged. The Ward sits within the Council's Irvine Locality with the other two Irvine Wards (Irvine West and Irvine South). (Boundary Map at Appendix 1i).
Ward 9: Irvine South	3	This Ward retains the existing Irvine South Ward, with the name, boundary, and number of Councillors unchanged. The Ward sits within the Council's Irvine Locality with the other two Irvine Wards (Irvine East and Irvine West). (Boundary Map at Appendix 1j).

2.14 These new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area:

- Retain the same number of Councillors as existing arrangements i.e., 33.
- Reduce the number of Electoral Wards from ten to nine.
- Retain four existing wards unchanged (Kilwinning, Irvine East, Irvine South, Irvine West).
- Consider North Ayrshire Council's six Localities and local ties and communities that they represent.
- Provide for a one-member Arran ward reflecting its island status.

- Take account of the Scottish Elections (Reform) Act 2020 that allows the use of 2-member and 5-member wards to design wards that better reflect local ties in the Garnock Valley, North Coast and Three Towns (Ardrossan, Saltcoats and Stevenston).
- Present a ward boundary between Ardrossan and Saltcoats and Stevenston that follows local community council areas and historical burgh boundaries.

2.15 All Electors who are affected by the Ward Boundary changes will receive written notification from the Chief Executive (in his capacity as Returning Officer) in early 2022. This will confirm their new Electoral Ward and any change of Polling Place. Poll cards for the Local Government Elections scheduled for 5 May 2022 which are due to be issued between Tuesday 15 / Wednesday 16 March 2022 will also reflect the new Wards/Polling Places.

3. Proposals

3.1 That Council notes the new Electoral Arrangements for the North Ayrshire Council area which come into force on Thursday 5 May 2022.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report as the number of Councillors will remain at 33 and will therefore not involve payment of any additional salary or expenses.

Human Resources

4.2 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

Legal

4.3 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Equality/Socio-economic

4.4 There are no equality/socio-economic implications arising directly from this report.

Environmental and Sustainability

4.5 There are no environmental/sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

Key Priorities

4.6 There are no implications for key priorities arising directly from this report.

Community Wealth Building

4.7 There are no community wealth building implications arising directly from this report.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation has taken place with the Electoral Registration Officer for Ayrshire on the production of this report.

Aileen Craig
Head of Service (Democratic)

For further information please contact **Barry Tudhope, Senior Manager (Corporate Policy, Performance & Elections)**, on **(01294) 324113**.

Background Papers

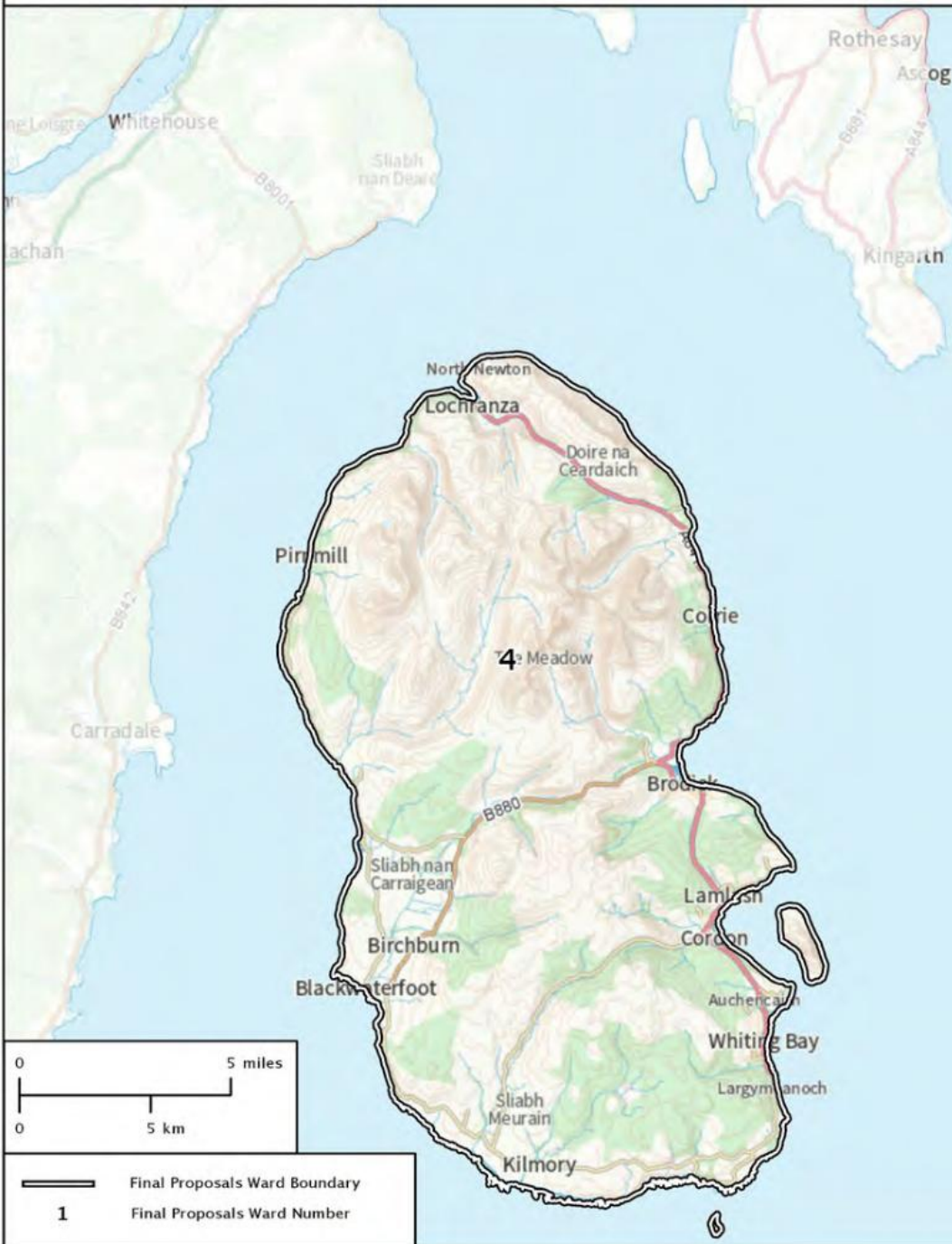
23 September 2020 – [Report to Council](#): Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland – Consultation on Review of North Ayrshire Ward Boundaries

23 September 2020 – [Minute of Council Meeting](#)

Boundaries Scotland Report to Scottish Ministers is available at <https://boundaries.scot/>

The North Ayrshire (Electoral Arrangements) Regulations 2021 Map of all electoral wards in North Ayrshire

Appendix 1a

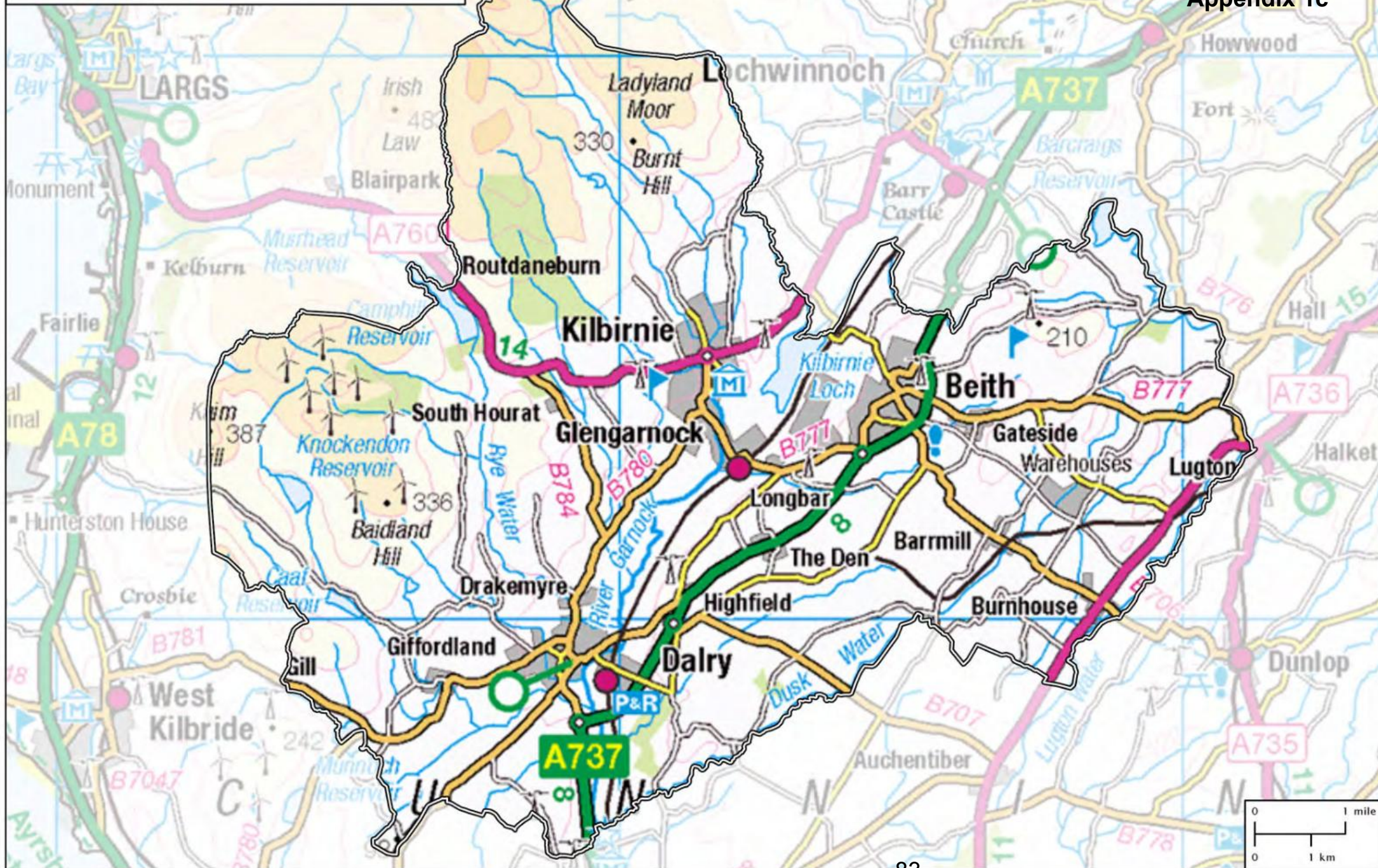


Ward No.	Ward Name
1	North Coast
2	Garnock Valley
3	Ardrossan
4	Arran
5	Saltcoats and Stevenston
6	Kilwinning
7	Irvine West
8	Irvine East
9	Irvine South

Appendix 1b



Appendix 1c

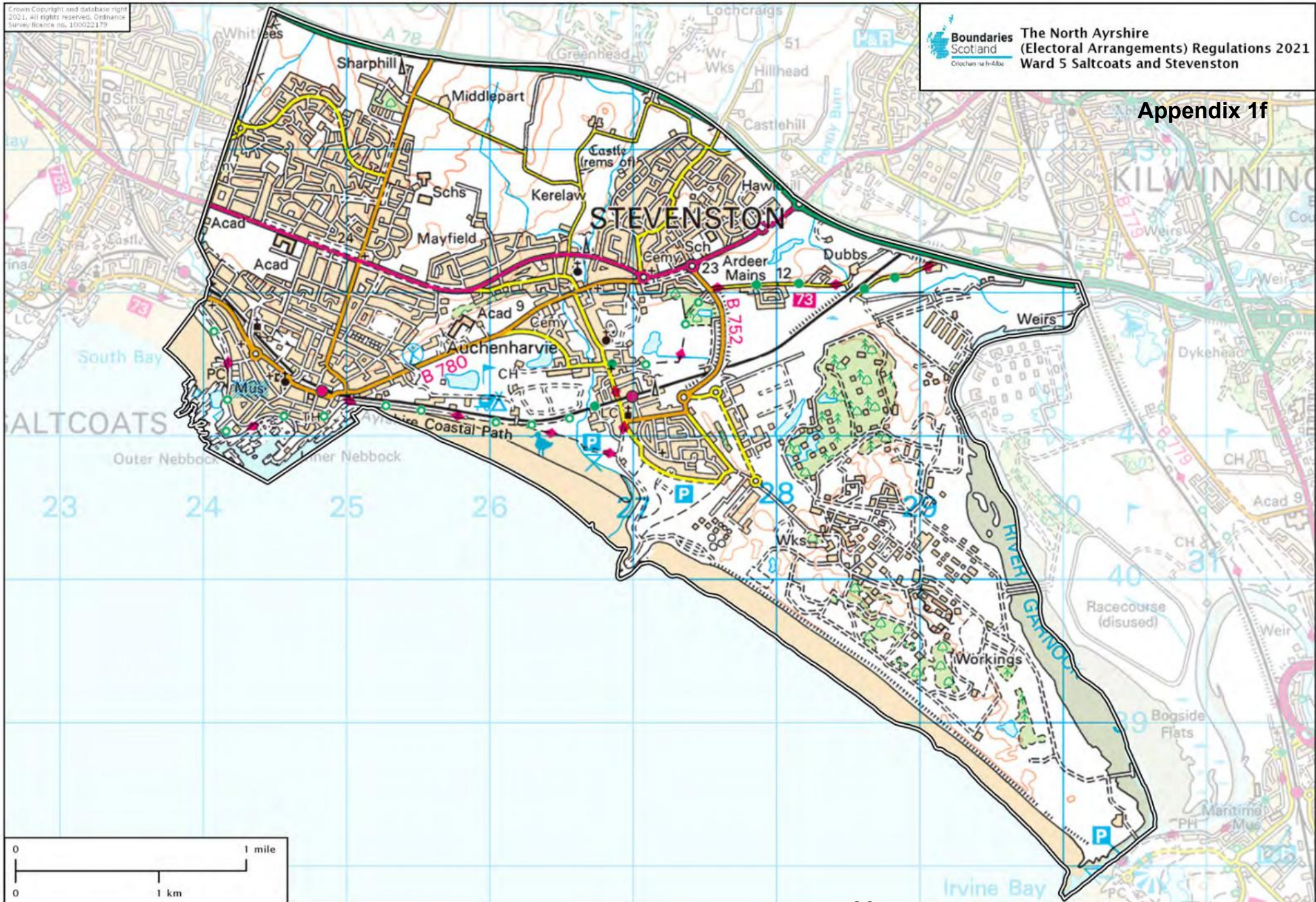




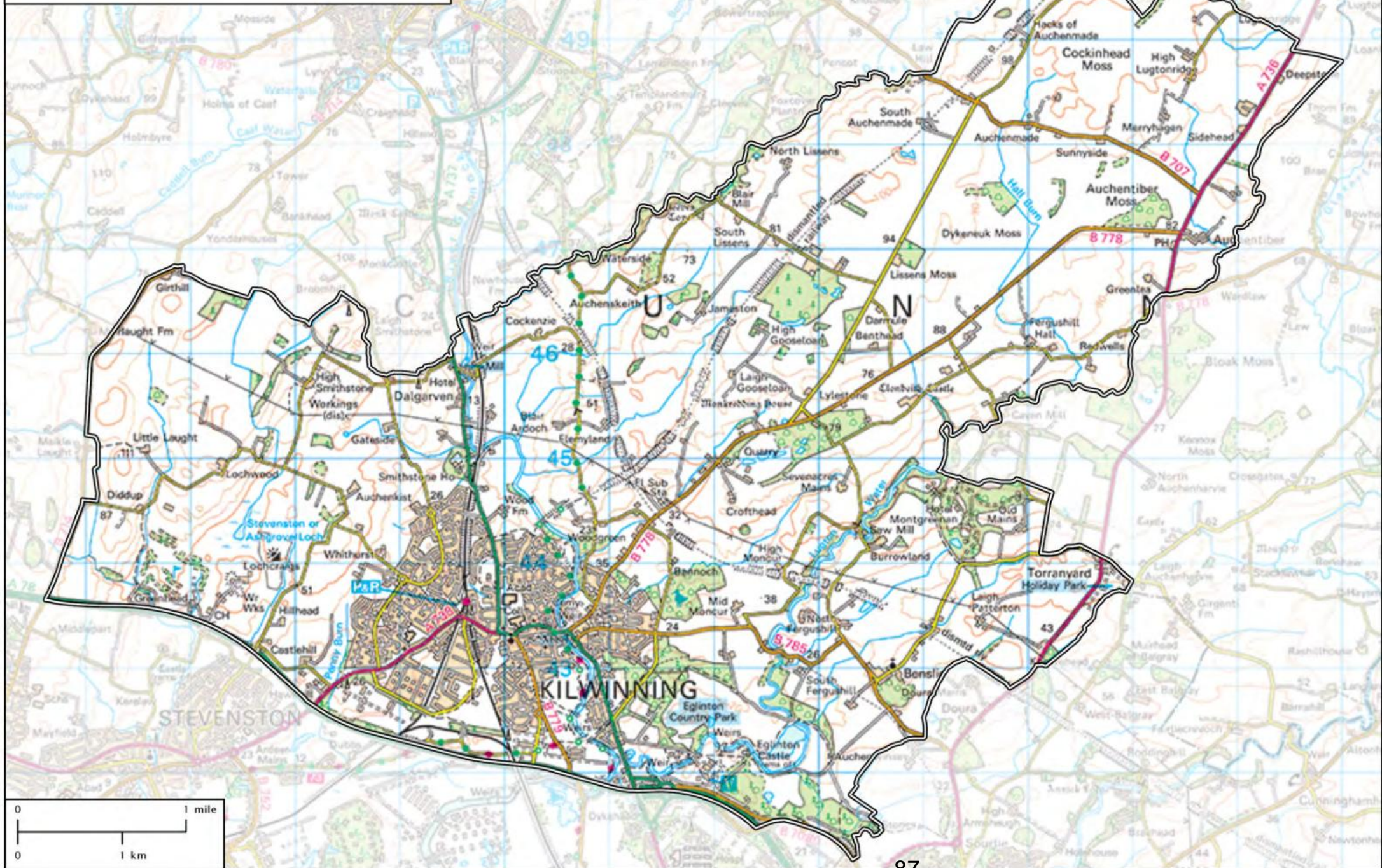
Appendix 1e



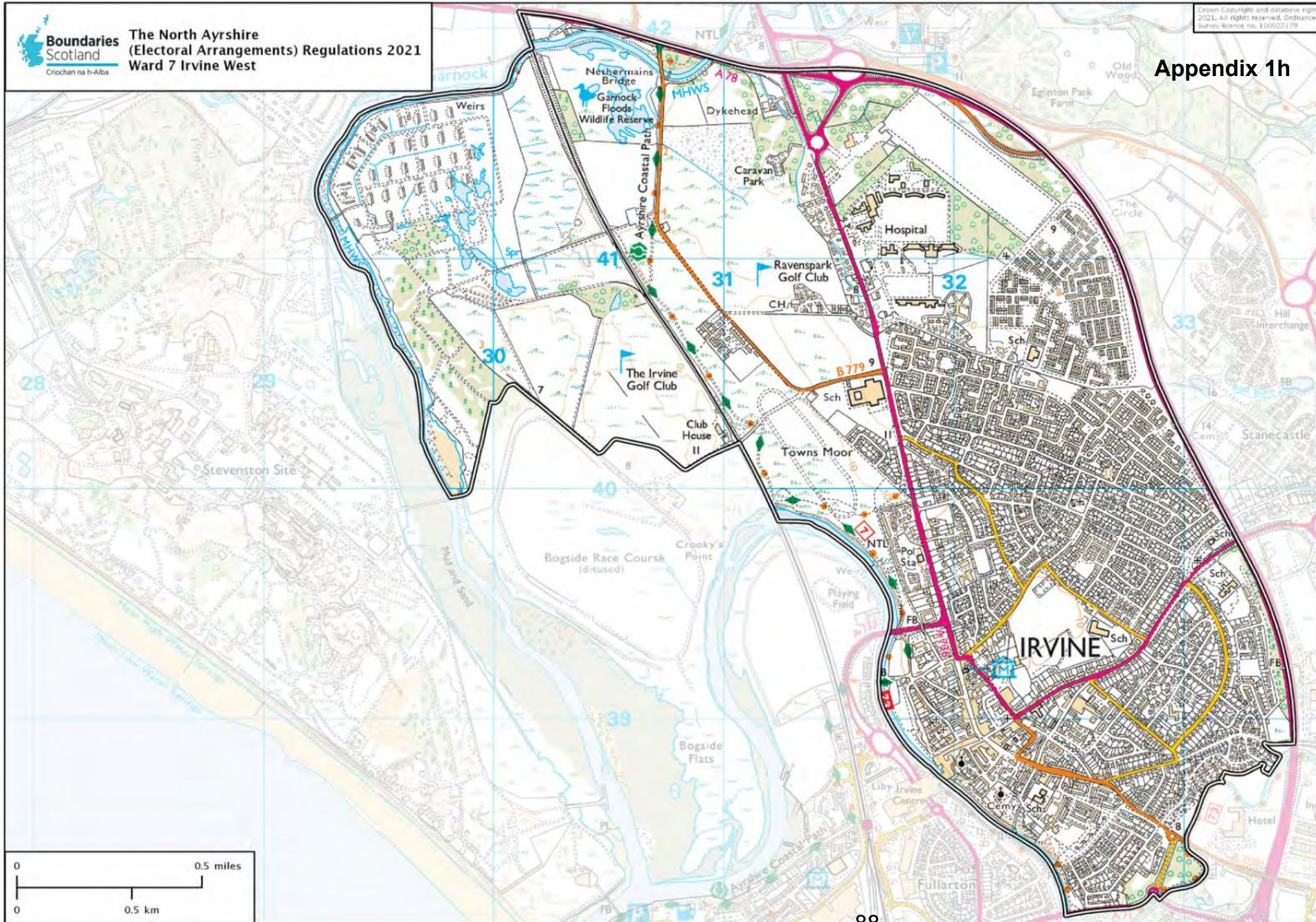
Appendix 1f



Appendix 1g



Appendix 1h



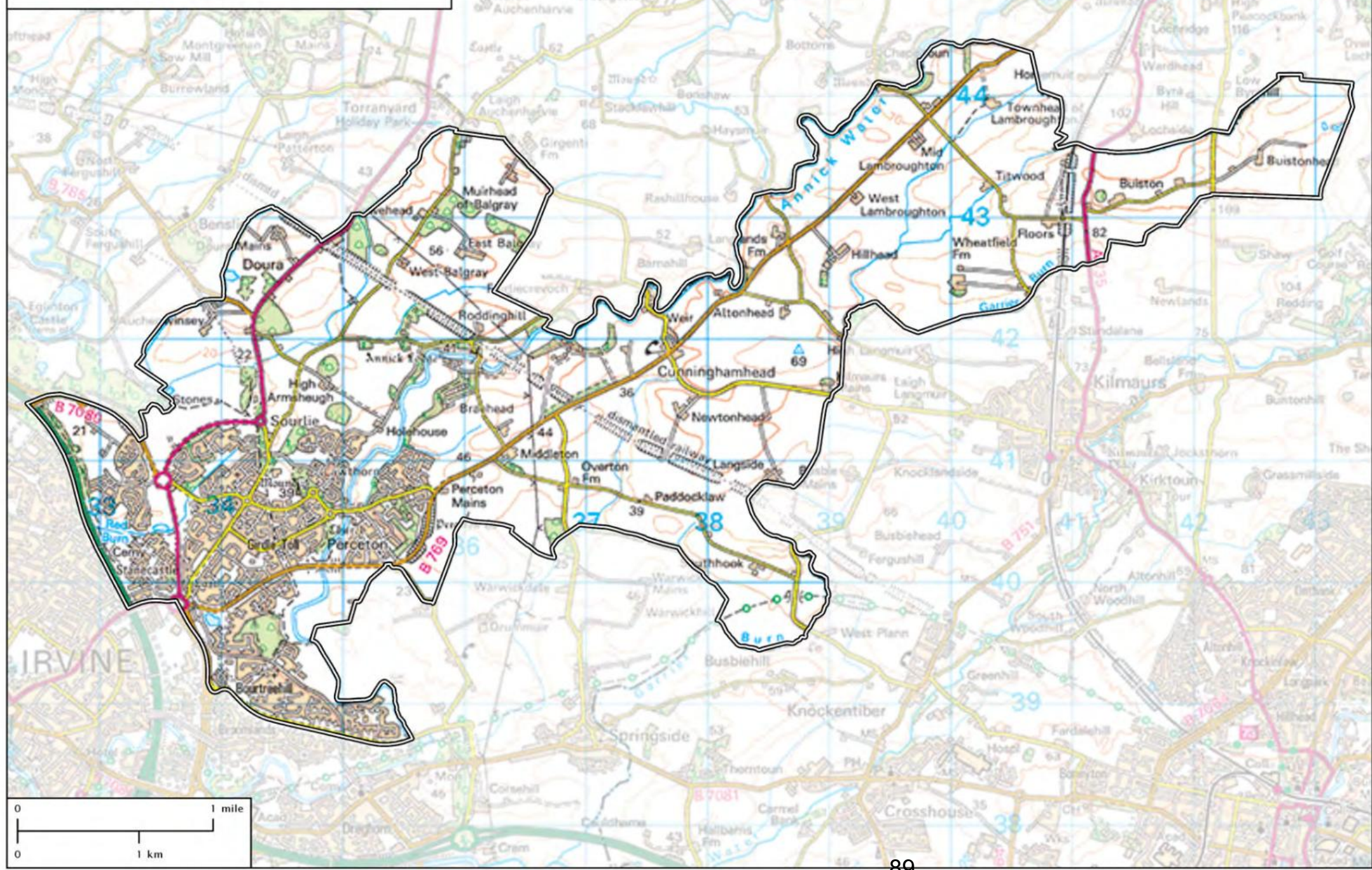


Boundaries Scotland
Crianan na h-Alba

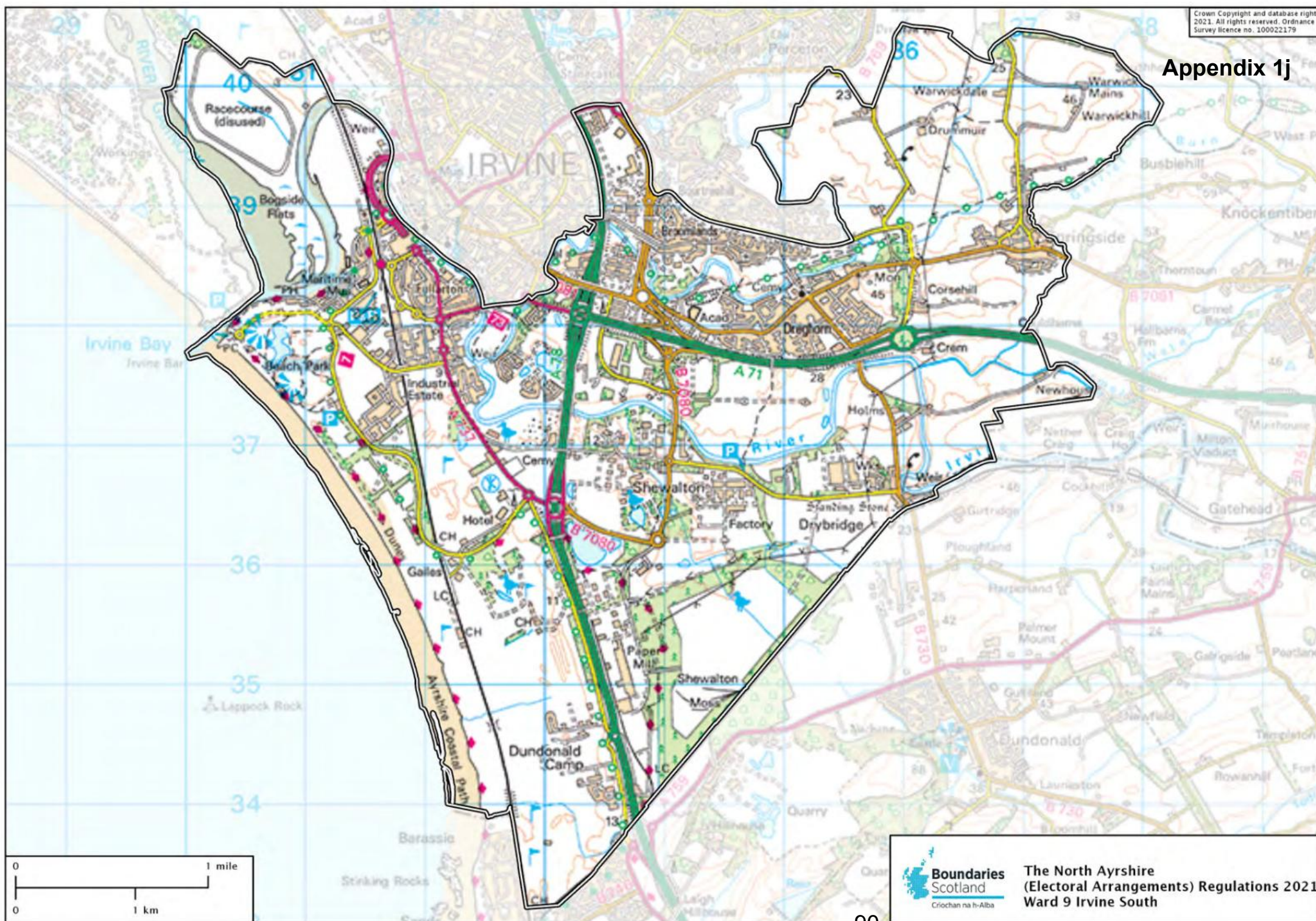
**The North Ayrshire
(Electoral Arrangements) Regulations 2021
Ward 8 Irvine East**

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Appendix 1i



Appendix 1j



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

8 December 2021

North Ayrshire Council

Title:	2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats - Compulsory Purchase
Purpose:	To approve the compulsory purchase of the site of the now demolished 2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats KA21 5DJ.
Recommendation:	That the Council resolves to make a Compulsory Purchase Order to be called "The North Ayrshire Council (2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021" as detailed in the proposals section of this Report

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Following the Cabinet approval at its meeting on 23 February 2021 as detailed in the attached report at Appendix 1, a demolition order was served and, after the time limit expired, Council officers arrange for the demolition of the property, which has now been completed.
- 1.2 It has not been possible to recover the demolition costs and to do so, it will be necessary for the Council to acquire the property by promoting a Compulsory Purchase Order.

2. Background

- 2.1 A Demolition Order was served on 2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats on 15 January 2015, due to the property being below the Tolerable Standard as defined in Section 86 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987. It was established that the owners were unmarried siblings without children and that both were deceased. However, other family members were identified and the Demolition Order was served on the solicitors who were believed to be acting for the next of kin of the deceased owners. The solicitors later confirmed that they did not have instructions to deal with the property and that the next of kin instructed that no further contact be made with them regarding the property. As the solicitors were not acting, the validity of this notice could not be relied upon.
- 2.2 The Cabinet of 23rd February 2021 authorised the serving of another Demolition Order and, in the absence of any known owners, this was served in February 2021 by affixing to the building requiring the demolition of that building within 6 weeks.

- 2.3 The Demolition Order was not complied with within the set timescale and the Council arranged for the demolition of the property. In the absence of any owners, the Council has not been able to recover the costs of demolition of the property.
- 2.4 As the Council has not been able to recover its costs by other means, a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) is now necessary to allow the Council to acquire the property.
- 2.5 The Compulsory Purchase Order will require to be advertised and notified to any person with an interest in the affected land. Thereafter there is a period for objection and any objections which cannot be resolved will in due course be determined at a public inquiry before a Reporter appointed by the Scottish Ministers. If the Order is confirmed there requires to be a further advert period prior to title being completed. Disputes in relation to compensation can also be referred to the Lands Tribunal for Scotland.
- 2.6 The rights of the owner of land or property under The Human Rights Act 1998 must be considered before deciding to make a Compulsory Purchase Order. In this connection, it is considered that as the owners are deceased and that the Council have demolished the property there is a compelling case in the public interest for acquisition of the property to recover the expenses of demolition and a compulsory purchase order would strike an appropriate balance between the public and private interest. If the Order is promoted, as noted at 2.5 above, in terms of the legislation any person having an interest in the land have the right to object to the proposed order at a fair, independent and public hearing and they are also entitled to statutory compensation in respect of their interest in the land. The council would be entitled to deduct the full cost of the demolition from the amount of any compensation payable. In the absence of any owners, compulsory purchase is accordingly considered to be both necessary and proportionate in the circumstances.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Proposal is that the Council make the following resolution: -

"That The North Ayrshire Council resolves in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 124 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 and in accordance with the provisions of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947 to make a compulsory purchase order to be called "The North Ayrshire Council (2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021" to purchase compulsorily ALL and Whole the site of the former dwellinghouse situated at 2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats KA21 5DJ shown coloured red on the attached Plan together with those rights in common to the entrance gates, access avenue, drying green and washhouse shown coloured blue on the said Plan specified in the Disposition by the Executor of William Barr recorded GRS(AYR) 2nd September 1970, authorise and instruct a Proper Officer of the Council to sign the Order and Plan on behalf of the Council; affix thereto the Common Seal of the Council; submit the Order and Plan to the Scottish Ministers for confirmation; give the appropriate notice to the owners and occupiers of the subjects, insert the appropriate notice in the local press and certify to the Scottish Ministers that the subjects (a) do not belong to the local authority, (b) have not been acquired by statutory undertakers for the purposes of the undertaking, (c) do not form part of a common or open space (d) are not held inalienably by the National Trust for Scotland; and (e) are not listed as being of special historical or architectural interest under Section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland)

Act 1997, and take all steps necessary to complete the compulsory purchase procedures".

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

- 4.1 The cost of the demolition of the building was £21,341.80 and nothing was realised from the sale of materials. The likely costs of the pursuing the compulsory purchase order, assuming it is not contested, would be in the region of £1500.

Human Resources

- 4.2 None

Legal

- 4.3 A Compulsory Purchase Order is the only way to complete title to land if the owner is unwilling or unable to agree a voluntary transfer. The Council are entitled to deduct from any compensation due for the site the amount of any unrecovered costs of the demolition.

Equality/Socio-economic

- 4.4 None

Environmental and Sustainability

- 4.5 None.

Key Priorities

- 4.6 Demolishing this property supports the Council plan priority outcome 'North Ayrshire is a vibrant, welcoming and attractive environment.

Community Wealth Building

- 4.7 There is no potential to include a community benefit clause within the compulsory purchase process itself.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation has been undertaken with Property Management and Investment Services was undertaken during both the progression of the case and development of the earlier Cabinet report.

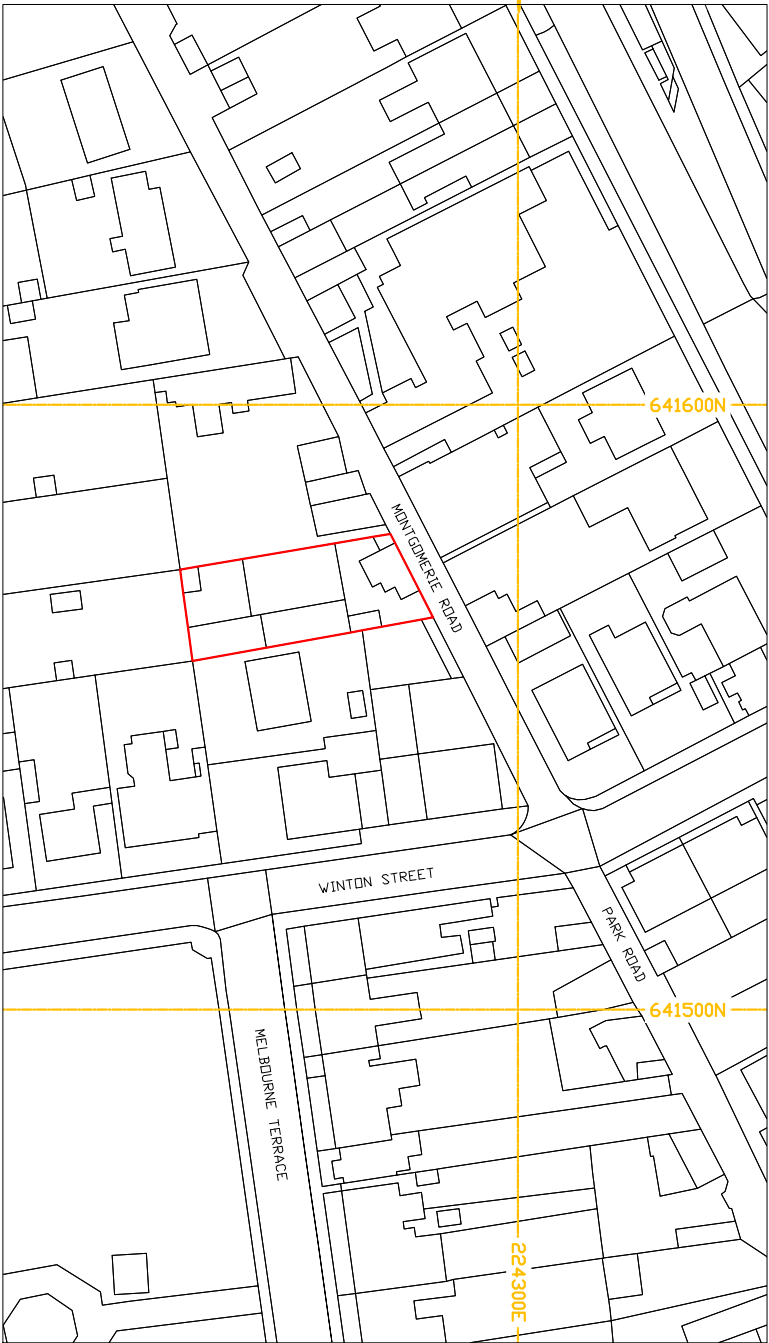
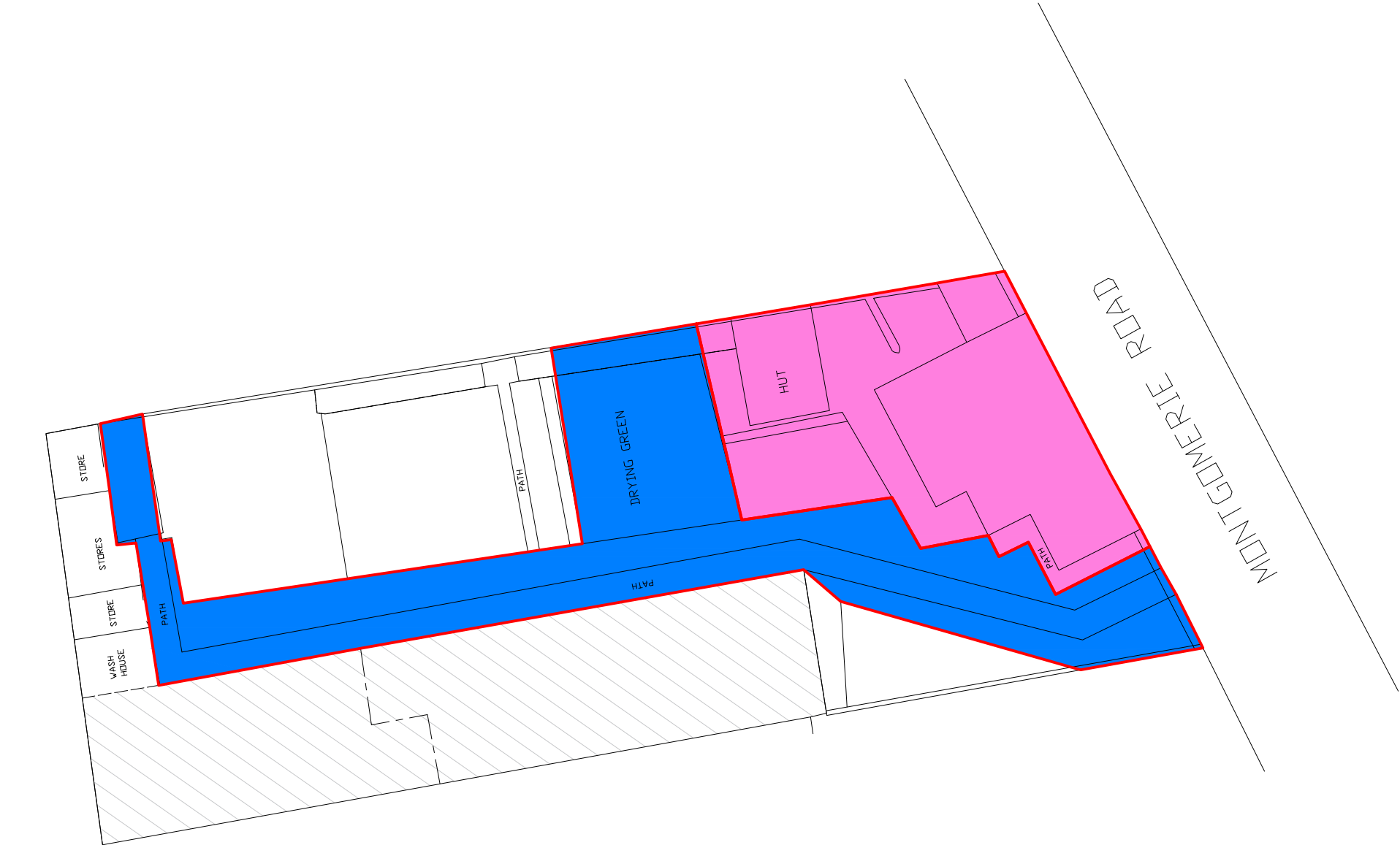
Aileen M Craig
Head of Democratic Services

For further information please contact **Jean Law, Solicitor, Legal Services**, on **01294 324325**.

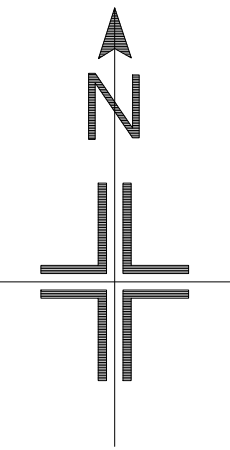
Background Papers

N/A

This is the plan referred to in the foregoing The North Ayrshire Council (2 Montgomerie Road, Saltcoats) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021



1:1250



1:200



