

# NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATION

## REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2023

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. When will the Consultation open?

The Consultation will open on [Monday 2 October 2023](#) when the Returning Officer publishes their proposals for changes to Polling Places in the North Ayrshire area.

#### 2. When will the Consultation close?

The Consultation will close on [Friday 30 November 2023](#). Comments must be with the Returning Officer by close of business (4.30pm) that day.

#### 3. Who can respond to the Consultation?

Any elector who lives in the North Ayrshire area, or someone who has a special interest in particular issues such as access for disabled people may respond to this consultation.

#### 4. How do I respond to the Consultation?

Responses may be made

By post: The Returning Officer  
Chief Executive's Office  
North Ayrshire Council  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE, KA12 8EE

By email: [elections@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:elections@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

#### 5. When will I know the outcome of the consultation?

The Returning Officer will report on their final proposals to North Ayrshire Council in March 2023.

#### 6. What is a Returning Officer?

The Returning Officer is the official who conducts an Election and announces (Returns) the result. The Returning Officer is the Chief Executive of North Ayrshire Council.

#### 7. What is Polling Day?

Polling Day is the day appointed for an election. Elections are usually held on a Thursday.



## 8. What is a Polling District?

A Polling District is a geographical sub-division of an electoral area. For voting purposes each Parliamentary constituency and every local government ward is divided into smaller polling districts. North Ayrshire Council, for example, has 9 wards which are split into 54 polling districts.

**NOTE:** The Returning Officer is **NOT** proposing any changes to Polling Districts as part of this review. The Returning Officer is, however, proposing changes to some Polling Places i.e. the building where electors cast their vote.

## 9. What is a Polling Place?

A Polling Place is the building and adjoining land where voters cast their ballots in elections. For example, a Community Centre, Church Hall or School can be designated as a Polling Place.



## 10. What is a Polling Station?

A Polling Station is the place where voting actually takes place. There may be more than one Polling Station in a Polling Place.



## 11. Why are you changing some Polling Places?

There are various reasons, for example, some buildings currently used as Polling Places may no longer be available. The Returning Officer is also keen that, **as far as possible**, schools should remain open on polling day so as not to disrupt education provision. However, this **may not always be possible** due to a lack of alternative buildings in the immediate vicinity or due to the size and layout of the school.

## 12. Where can I get further information?

You can get further information by calling **(01294) 310000** or send us an email: [elections@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:elections@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

## Are you registered to vote?

You can register by visiting:  
**[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)**  
or call the Electoral Registration Officer  
(based in Ayr) on **01292 612221**



