The Highland Council Election
Taghadh Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2022

Friday 6th May 2022

Information booklet for candidates, agents, the media & authorised observers. This information pack contains everything you need to know for The Highland Council Elections 2022.

Inverness Leisure Centre, Bught Lane, Inverness IV3 5SS

Contents

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Introduction

This booklet is designed to help you when you attend the electronic Count (eCount) of votes cast for The Highland Council 2022 Elections. This booklet will provide you with detailed information on the Count activities and what will happen on the day of the Count, Friday 6th May 2022.

This election has the following sequence of key events:

From Tuesday 19th April

Opening of the postal votes commenced in the Highland Council Headquarters, Inverness on 19th April with envelopes being prepared for scanning. The verification of the postal vote statements and opening of the ballot paper envelopes commenced on 26th April. Postal ballot boxes will be transported during the evening of 5th May and any postal packs received from polling stations will be processed early Friday 6th May and transported to the Count Centre.

From Thursday 5th May

After the close of poll at 10pm all ballot boxes from the polling stations will be delivered to the Count Centre where the reconciliation of unused /spoilt ballot papers and the checking of ballot paper accounts will take place.

From Friday 6th May

Under the supervision of Returning Officer Donna Manson, the eCount of votes cast will start at 8am on Friday 6th May with the opening of the ballot boxes and the registration of the ballot paper accounts. The scanning of the ballot papers will start at 9am.

As directed by the Convener of the Electoral Management Board the Returning Officers of the 32 Local Authorities in Scotland, must ensure that the first ballot boxes are opened after 8am and not later than 9:30am on Friday 6th May 2022 to allow the verification and count to begin. There will be no overnight counting of votes but the verification/count in all Councils must be underway by 9:30am on 6th May 2022.

Our Highland Count Centre will open on **Friday 6th May at 7:45am**.

20 Contested wards and 1 uncontested ward

At the close of the nomination period at 4pm on Wednesday 30th March, there were 20 wards to be contested and 1 ward, Caol and Mallaig uncontested. For the 20 contested wards, 71 members are to be elected on Friday 6th May.

The candidates to be declared elected are:

For the uncontested ward, the candidates require to be declared elected before 11am on the day of the poll. The declaration for the 3 candidates for Caol and Mallaig Ward will take place on 5th May at 9:30am.

	Candidate Name		Party
Ward 11 Caol and Mallaig	BALDREY	Andrew	Scottish Greens - Delivering For Our Community
	GRAFTON	John Colin	Scottish Liberal Democrats
	SAGGERS	Liz	Scottish Conservative and Unionist

General count information

Preparations have been made to ensure the count is safe, accurate, transparent, efficient and is conducted in a timely manner. If you require clarification on any point, please contact or ask any of the Returning Officer's staff (see page 17).

COVID Context

While the requirements that were in law have now been removed, COVID-19 remains an ongoing concern for public health. We have therefore assesed the risk in the count premises and will take and encourage sensible precautions and actions to reduce the risk of transmission.

Car parking

Car parking is available outside of the Inverness Leisure Centre. Alternative parking can be found at the Highland Archive Centre and the Highland Rugby Club.

Please take a look at the location map (page 6) which shows parking and the access route to the main door.

Access to the count

Entrance Procedure

Prior to the count day, the election team will issue you with your badges.

a) You are able to print them yourself;

b) have them sent to your election agent; or

c) you are able to pick them up at the Count Centre on the day.

On the day of the count, upon entering the Count Centre we ask you to be patient while your attendance is being confirmed so we can ensure your safety and security.

Only those on the candidate, election agent, counting agent and media list and accredited observers will be permitted entry. This also extends to representatives of the Electoral Commission, Scottish Government, Electoral Management Board, Police Scotland and our suppliers High Life Highland and Fujitsu.

ID verification and bag search

All those attending the count (e.g. Staff, Contractors, Media, Observers, Candidates, Election Agents and Counting Agents) will be subject to a photographic ID check and all bags that are hand carried into the venue will also be searched for items that are not permitted.

You must bring photographic identification otherwise you will not be able to gain admission to the Count Centre.

Please be prepared to be challenged if you are not displaying your Count Centre ID badge at all times while onsite.

Access is through a dedicated entrance at the Leisure Centre. As indicated on the layout of the Count Centre which is included on page 9. Toilet facilities are available in the same floor as the Sports Hall.

Reception/information desk

Security at the Count Centre

Please be aware that the management at the count venue reserves the right to inspect any bag and/or articles of clothing for the following prohibited items.
We reserve the right to refuse entry to the venue to anyone who appears to be under the influence of illegal drugs or heavily intoxicated.

Alcoholic Beverages	Glass	Firearms, explosives, dangerous substances
Illegal substances/ illicit drugs	Opened drink containers	Weapons - replicas or ceremonial items
Unauthorised signage and promotional products	Animals (other than guide/ assistance dogs and dogs on lead)	Any other item that could be a public nuisance or jeopardise the event

Emergency evacuation procedures

There will be no planned fire drill however if there is an emergency there will be an audible alarm. You should exit immediately by the fire exit closest to you. Members of the Returning Officer's staff and High Life Highland will be on hand to direct you to exit the building.

- **The muster point is in the carpark immediately outside the entrance.**

Breakout Areas

Teas and coffees will be available within Sports Hall 2 of the Leisure Centre. Besides the vending machines within the centre, the Botanic Gardens Café will be open at 10am where you can purchase drinks and snacks.

Please remember that alcohol is not permitted in the Count Centre and anyone under the influence will not gain access to the count.

Mobile phones/ Photography/ video & voice recording/ social media

You must not take any photographs or make any video or voice recordings on the Count floor. Mobiles are not allowed near tables and photography is prohibited. Mobile phones and computer devices may be used in the Count Centre but cannot be used for taking photographs, video or voice recording or for transmission of social media on the count floor. Cameras should only be used to photograph the announcement of the results. Corporate Communications Officers for the Returning Officer are the only exception to this rule.

The Highland Council's Corporate Communications Team will be providing regular updates and broadcasting live key events throughout the day from the Count Centre, which can be followed via our social media channels on Twitter, Facebook and The Highland Council's YouTube channel. All results will be posted with the hashtag **#SLG22Result** on social media and The Highland Council's website: **www.highland.gov.uk/slg22election**

Requirement for secrecy

Every person attending the count will be required to maintain the secrecy of voting as laid out in Rule 27, Scottish Local Government Elections Rules 2011 as per extract below:

[…]

(3) Every person attending at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and
    shall not –

(a) ascertain or attempt to ascertain at the counting of the votes the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of any ballot paper;

(b) communicate any information obtained at the counting of the votes as to the candidate for whom any vote is given on any particular ballot paper.

[…]

(8) If a person acts in contravention of this rule that person shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding the amount specified as level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.
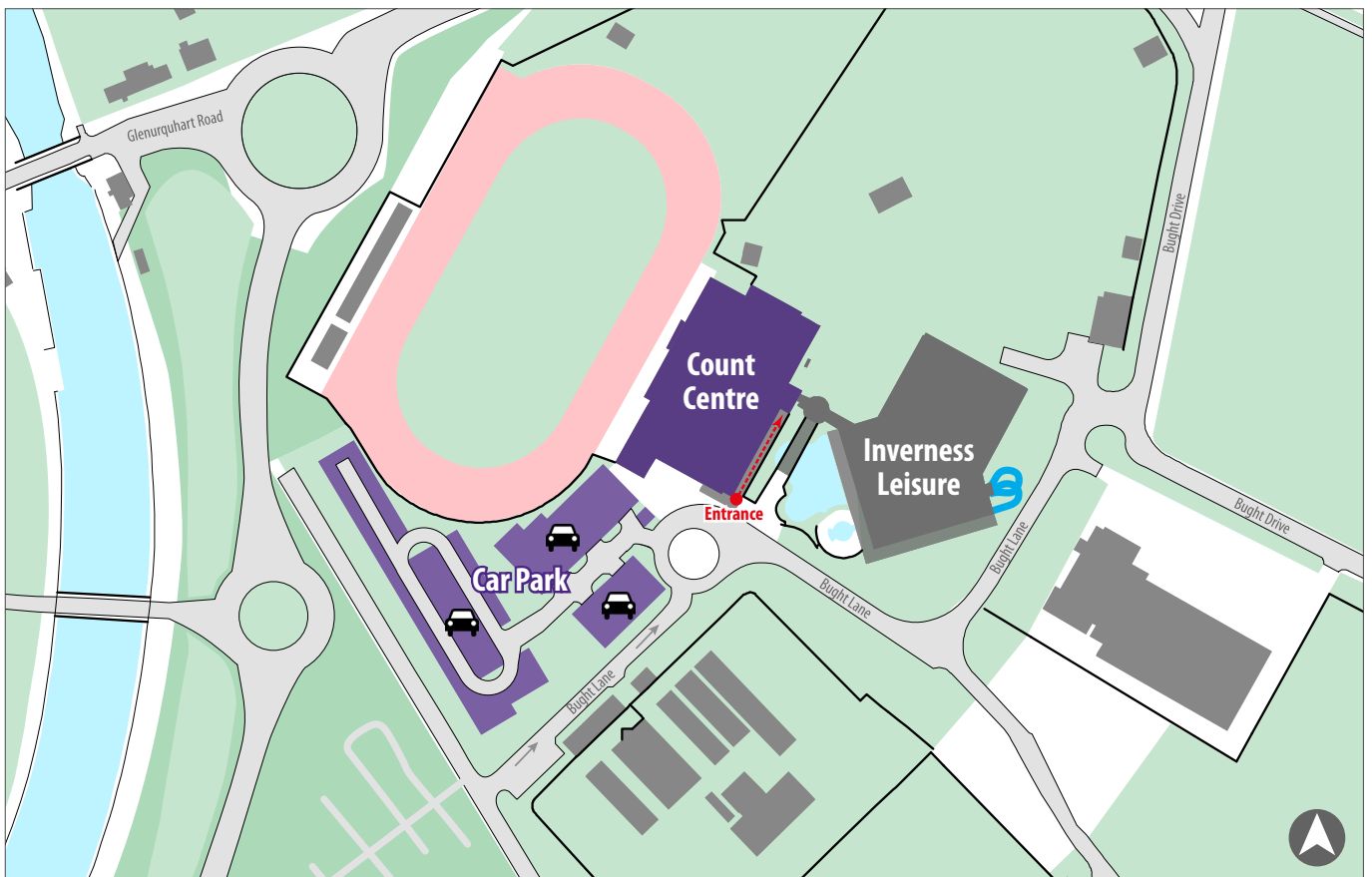
Count Centre layout plans

Location plan
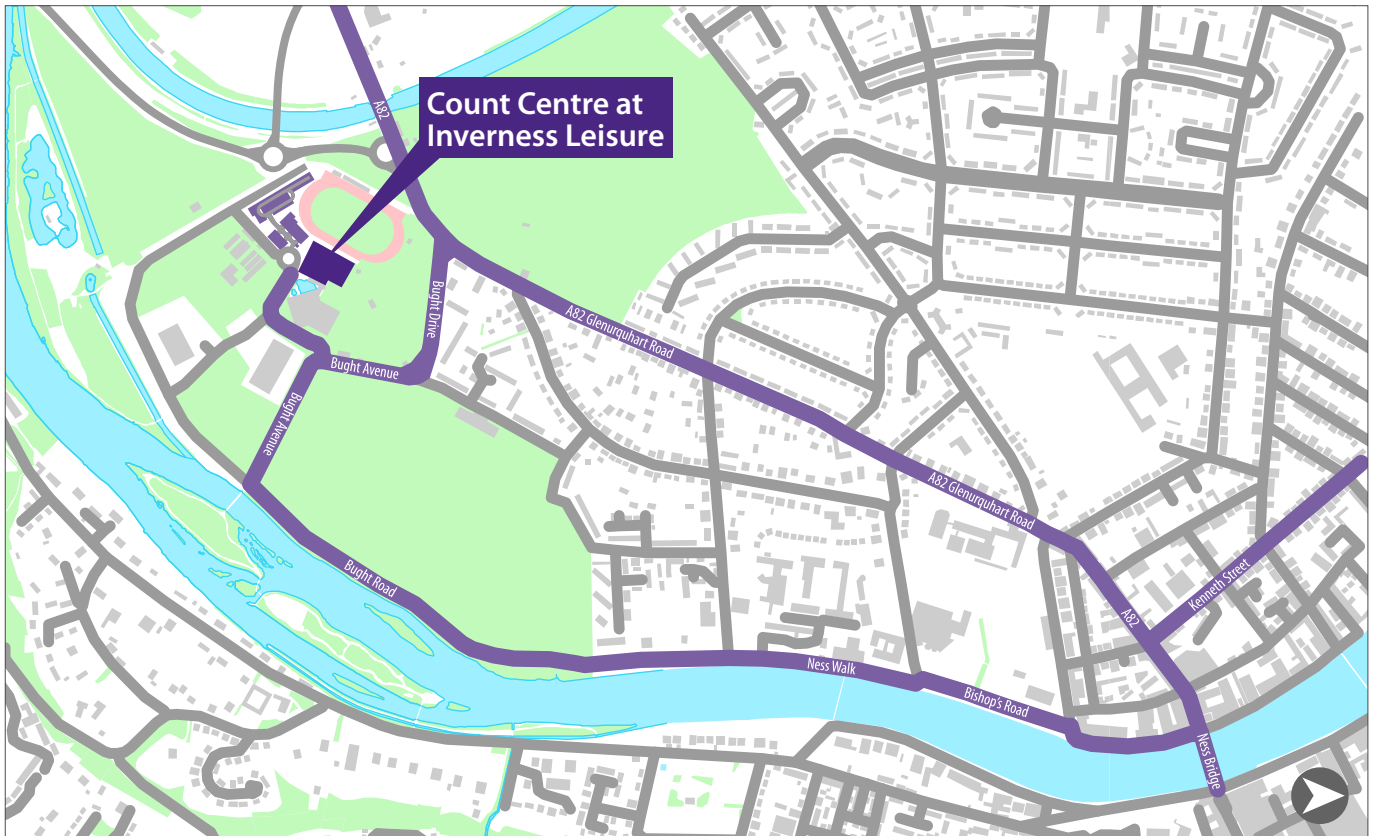
Crown Copyright and Database Right 2017. The Highland Council 100023369

Site plan showing main car park

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Timetable

Due to the nature of an election count, we cannot be definitive with any times, however given past experience, we anticipate that the provisional timings will be as follows. ➡

Activity	Estimated Time
Ballot Box opening and registration	Starting at 8am
Scanning	Starting at 9am
Declaration of the results	From 10am onwards

The count procedure

eCounting is a method of counting votes and calculating the result of an election using a computer system.

Scotland uses the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system, making it possible for the electorate to vote for every candidate in order of preference using numbers.

After the successful delivery of the 2017 elections, once again, the local elections will be electronically counted using the same system.

What is STV?

1. Electoral Wards identify the areas served by councillors at local government level. There are 355 electoral wards, also known as multi-member wards, covering the whole of Scotland. Members are elected as councillors using the STV (Single Transferable Vote) system. The key features of this system are explained below.

2. Each Ward's quota is calculated by dividing the number of valid ballot papers (total votes cast minus any rejected papers) by **1** more than the number of vacancies, plus **1**. An example is detailed below:

   • Number of seats to be filled = **3**

   • Total number of ballot papers = **2,931**

   • Number of rejected ballot papers = **43**, therefore:

   • The number of valid ballot papers = **2,888** and the quota is:

   • Quota = (**2,888**/(**3**+**1**))+**1** = **723**

3. If a candidate reaches or exceeds the electoral quota they are elected. The value of the surplus votes for elected candidates is then transferred to the next valid candidate in order of preference on each individual ballot paper.

4. In the example, say Candidate A received a total of 998 first preference votes. The quota was just **723** votes so there would be an excess of 275 surplus votes. These need to be passed on to the candidate that the voter chose next in order of preference. All 998 votes are redistributed but are given a transfer value to make that 998 worth just 275. The transfer value is 275 divided by 998 = 0.27555.

5. All the votes for Candidate A are examined for a second preference and are transferred to that candidate at a value of 0.27555 for each paper. That way only the value of the surplus is transferred. If the voter marked only a preference for Candidate A then the ballot paper is non-transferable. In all subsequent stages of the count the total number of votes will always be **2,888** (shown to 5 decimal places) which will be either allocated to candidates who are elected, the continuing candidates or treated as non-transferable.

6. If no other candidate has attained the quota, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be excluded and their votes either transferred to continuing candidates or added to the non-transferable total. These votes are transferred out at their current value i.e. they could be first preference votes counting as 1.00000 or transferred at a lower value from another candidate or candidates' surplus.

7. This process is repeated until another candidate reaches the quota, or until the number of candidates still in the contest equals the number of vacancies remaining. Therefore, a candidate elected at the final stage may have fewer, or indeed, more votes than the quota.

An informative video explaining the Single Transferable Vote system will be displayed during the day and can be found online from the 5th May at:

https://youtu.be/gfoUCuy0Snk

A video on the key count processes will also be displayed throughout the day and a link to this video will be emailed to candidates and agents.

Count the first preference for each candidate

↓

Has the quota been reached by any candidate?

YES ↓   **NO** ↓

Transfer surplus to next available preference

Eliminate candidate with lowest vote and redistribute to next available preference

↓   **NO** ↗   ↓

Have enough candidates been elected?

YES ↓

Declare result

Reconciliation of unused ballot papers and checking of ballot paper accounts

The reconciliation of unused ballot papers and the checking of ballot papers accounts will take place after the close of poll 10pm on Thursday 5th May 2022 and this process will commence as soon as the ballot boxes arrive from the polling stations. If you wish to attend this process, which will take place at the Count Centre, please let us know by emailing:

election@highland.gov.uk

Ballot box opening and eCount

One room will be used for the Count, the Sports Hall will be designated for the Ballot Box opening and for the Electronic Count itself. Each area within the eCount floor will be clearly indentified.

Candidates, agents and observers can circulate within the room via the main entrance.

Inverness Leisure will open for count business from **7:45am on Friday 6th May 2022**. A floor plan of the count can be found overleaf.
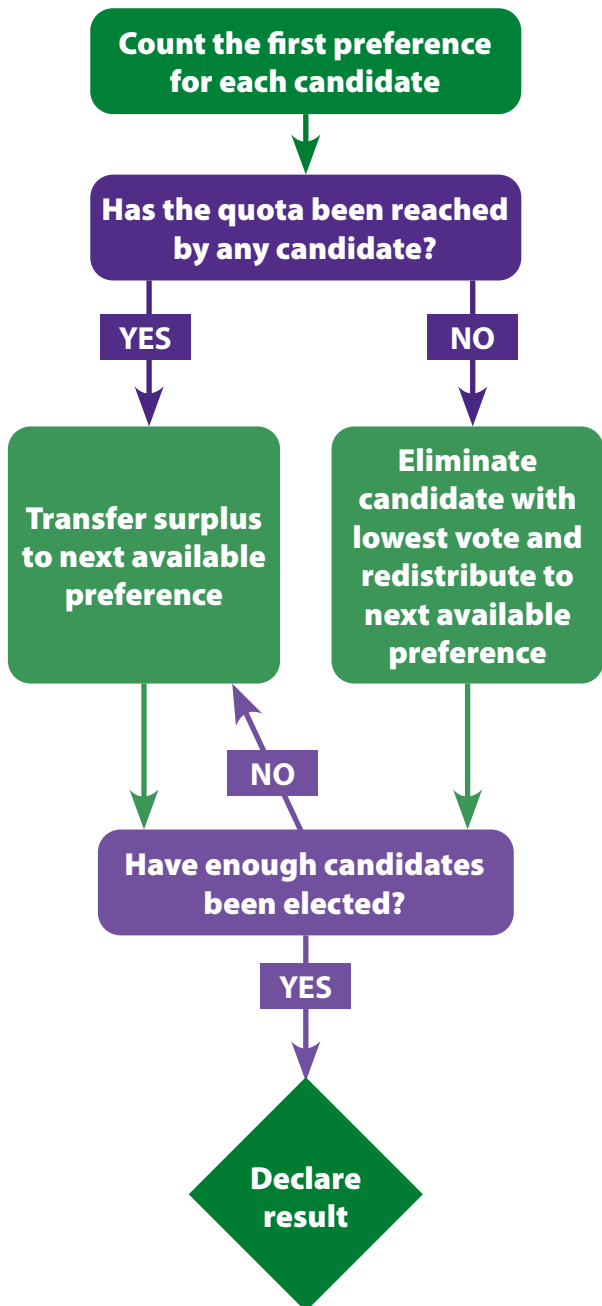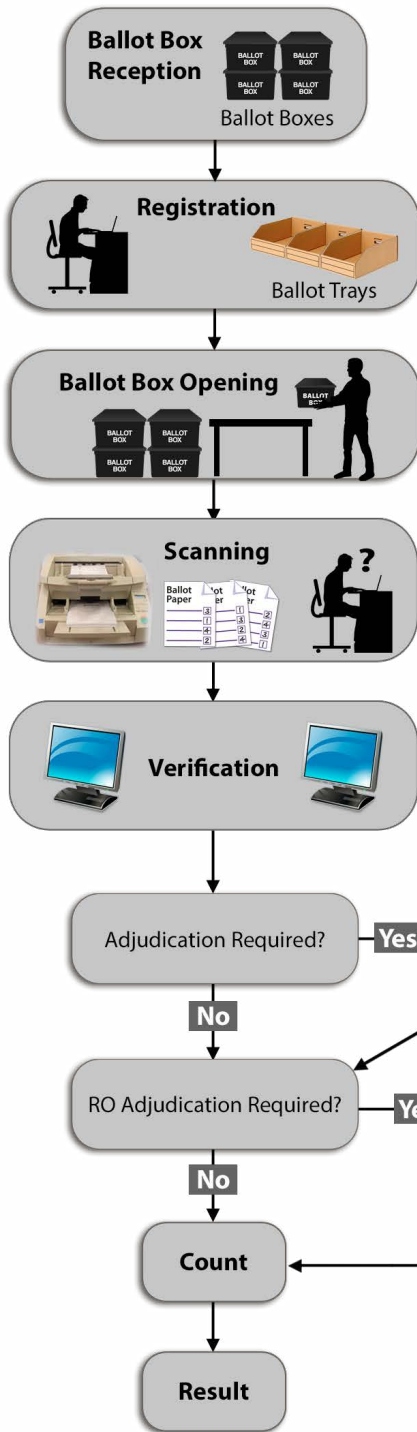
Key

S - Scanning workstation

A - Adjudication workstation

RV - Registration & Verification

RO - Returning Officer

RO Adj - Returning Officer Adjudication

SS -Server & Switch station

(to be manned by Fujitsu Technical Engineers)

P - Printer

ASR - Awaiting scanning racking area

SCR - Scanning Complete racking area

FJ - Fujitsu Manager

CM - Council Count Centre Manager workstation

Floor plan

Media / Cameras

Refreshments

Candidate Breakout Area

Media Area

First aid

Exit   Entrance

ZONE B

SS   Server

Candidate, Agent & Media Reception

FJ
CM
P

6 S
5 S
4 S
3 S

RO Adj

RO Adj

Corporate Comms

Observer Area

Corporate Comms

RO

Podium

Media / Camera Area

2 S

RV
P
RV

1 S

Count Staff Area

SCR (Zone B)

13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3 2 1

14 15 16 17 18 19

RO Adj

Zone B Extractions

6 S
5 S
4 S
3 S

Observer Area

Count Staff Area

SCR (Zone A)

ASR (Zone B)

A A A A S 1 2 S

Zone A Extractions

ASR (Zone A)

ZONE A

ASR

Candidates, Agents, Media Entrance

Staff Entrance & Access for Deliveries

The count procedure

The ballot box opening and registration process will start at 8am and the scanning of the ballot papers will start at 9am.

The various stages of the eCount are shown in the flowchart below and are outlined in the subsequent pages. A brief description of each stage is provided. In later sections of this guide each part of the process is explained in detail.

There will be display screens in the eCount Centre which will show the overall progress of the count. The wards being contested are listed across the screen and for each ward you will be able to see what stage of the count has been completed.

During the count these screens will switch over to show the Candidate First Preference Vote bar chart which will display 100% of the first preferences for all candidates.

When all boxes have been verified a black line will be displayed on the graph showing the **"provisional quota"**. This is not the final quota as the quota will reduce if any votes are rejected during the Returning Officers adjudication, reducing the number of "valid votes" in the count.

When Returning Officer adjudication takes place the display screens will show all of the doubtful ballot papers requiring adjudication.

Reception - The ballot box opening
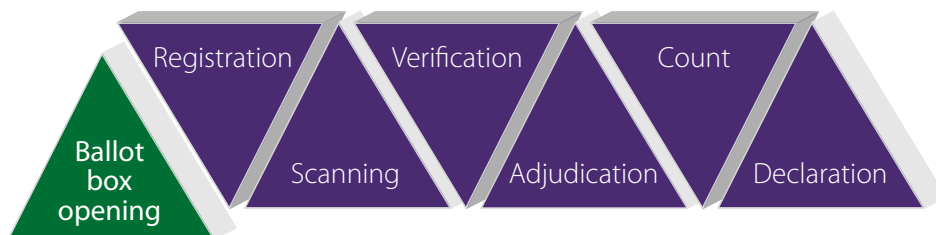
Ballot box opening is taking place in the designated area within Sports Hall 1 at the tables shown on the plan on page 9. The opening of the boxes will start at 8am and is anticipated to last until 12 noon. This stage of the process involves removing the ballot papers from the ballot boxes and placing them into trays, marked with the ballot box information ready for processing. At this point any folded ballot

papers are opened and re-arranged so they are organised in the same way. This is to facilitate the efficiency of the scanning process.

This process will be done with the ballot papers '**face-up**'. Postal Ballot Boxes will contain ballot papers which are already unfolded and in bundles. They will be bundle flicked for viewing and put in the appropriate tray.

Once all the ballot papers from a box have been put in the ballot paper tray, the tray is transferred to the '**Awaiting Scanning**' area.

Ballot box opening schedule

The ballot boxes will be opened in the sequence of wards as indicated in the table below. The first box opening will start at 8am and is anticipated to have completed the last box by approximately 12 noon.

| Ward Name	Ward No.	Cllrs to be elected	Candidates standing	Total no. of boxes incl postals	Tables allocated to ballot box opening	Opening Time
Inverness West	13	3	9	11	1 to 6	8am
Inverness Ness-Side	15	3	7	12	7 to 13	8am
Inverness Central	14	3	10	14	14 to 19	8am
Inverness Millburn*	16	3	4	11	1 to 6	8:30am
Culloden & Ardersier*	17	3	7	12	7 to 13	8:30am
Inverness South*	19	4	7	20	14 to 19	8:30am
Nairn & Cawdor	18	4	8	17	1 to 6	9am
Badenoch & Strathspey	20	4	8	20	7 to 13	9am
Cromarty Firth	6	4	9	13	14 to 19	9am
Black Isle*	9	3	8	14	1 to 6	9:45am
Dingwall & Seaforth*	8	4	7	15	7 to 13	9:45am
Wick & East Caithness	3	4	6	19	1 to 6	9:45am
Tain & Easter Ross	7	3	5	12	7 to 13	10:45am
Eilean a' Cheò	10	4	9	26	1 to 6	10:45am
Aird & Loch Ness	12	4	7	21	7 to 13	10:45am
Wester Ross, Strathpeffer & Lochalsh*	5	4	5	31	1 to 6	11:15am
North, West & Central Sutherland*	1	3	7	22	7 to 13	11:15am
East Sutherland & Edderton*	4	3	5	13	1 to 6	11:45am
Fort William & Ardnamurchan	21	4	5	23	7 to 13	11:45am
Thurso & Northwest Caithness	2	4	6	17	1 to 6	11:45am

Wards scanned together*

Registration
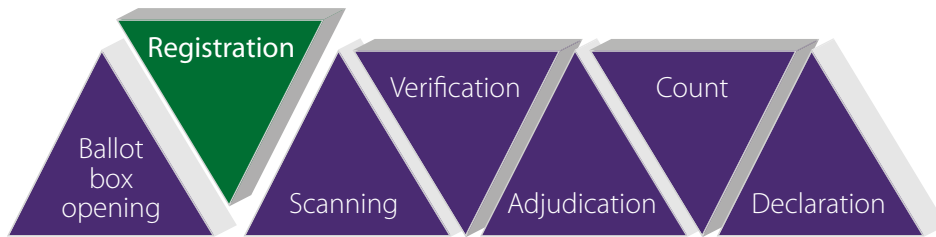
The registration of ballot paper accounts will start at 8am. The number of ballot papers issued at the polling station are entered into the system. This number is recorded on the ballot paper account which is completed at the polling stations. A copy of the ballot paper account is placed into a folder and positioned at the Registration Workstation. The Registration Operator registers the Ward's ballot paper account in the eCount system. Ballot paper accounts should be ordered in the folder in the same order as each Ward is being counted.

Please note, the roles of Registration and Verification will be performed by the same team at the **Desks named RV** (see page 9), commencing as the first boxes are opened, in the order as indicated above. This is the first stage of the eCount process. Once the sheets are entered into the system then registration is complete.

Ballot box scanning
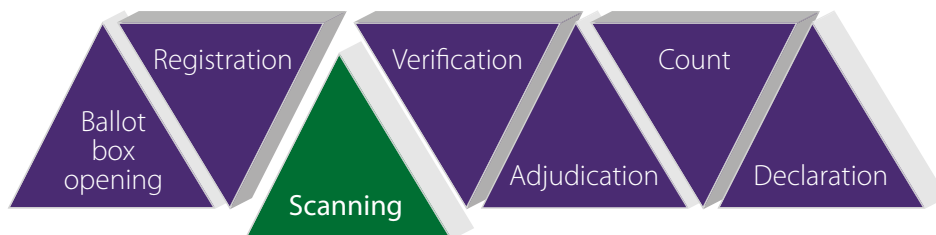
As soon as registration is complete the registered trays will be taken to scan and this will take place at **Desks named RV** (see page 9). As indicated in the ballot box scanning schedule below, scanning will take place in 2 different zones, A or B. The scanning timings are approximate timings.

Ballot box scanning schedule

Ward Name	Ward No.	Cllrs to be elected	Candidates standing	Total no. of Trays	Scanning Zone	Scanning Times
Inverness West	13	3	9	11	A	9am
Inverness Ness-Side	15	3	7	12	B	9am
Inverness Central	14	3	10	14	A	9am
Inverness Millburn*	16	3	4	11	B	9:30am
Culloden & Ardersier*	17	3	7	12	A	9:30am
Inverness South*	19	4	7	20	B	9:30am
Nairn & Cawdor	18	4	8	17	A	10:30am
Badenoch & Strathspey	20	4	8	20	B	10:30am
Cromarty Firth	6	4	9	13	A	10:30am

Black Isle*	9	3	8	14	B	**11am**
Dingwall & Seaforth*	8	4	7	15	A	
Wick & East Caithness	3	4	6	19	B	
Tain & Easter Ross	7	3	5	12	A	**12 noon**
Eilean a' Cheò	10	4	9	26	B	
Aird & Loch Ness	12	4	7	21	A	
Wester Ross, Strathpeffer & Lochalsh*	5	4	5	31	B	**1pm**
North, West & Central Sutherland*	1	3	7	22	A	
East Sutherland & Edderton*	4	3	5	13	B	**1:45pm**
Fort William & Ardnamurchan	21	4	5	23	A	
Thurso & Northwest Caithness	2	4	6	17	B	

Wards scanned together*

At this stage, a Scanning Operator will scan the ballot papers through a standard commercial scanner. Other than capturing the scanned images, no processing of the data is done at this point.
When all the papers in a ballot paper tray have been scanned, the tray is moved to the '**Scanning Complete**' area.

Verification
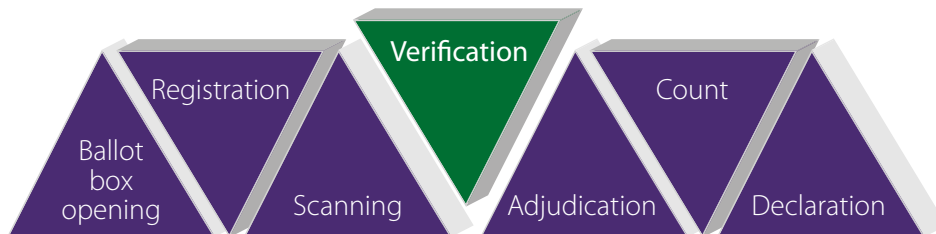
Once a ballot paper tray has been scanned, the system will show that its contents are awaiting Verification. This will take place at **Desks named RV**.

The job of the Registration/Verification Officer is to check the number of papers processed by the Scanning Operator against the number expected based on the ballot paper account. Staff have been asked to explain any decisions they make at this stage particularly where there may be a variance between the numbers being compared. Once verification of all boxes from a ward is complete, a full report, including information on how variances were considered, will be produced and made available to candidates and election agents.

As each ballot paper tray is verified, the ballot paper images are read by the eCounting software and if they pass the set threshold tests, they are processed automatically.

Adjudication

Registration | Verification | Count

Ballot box opening | Scanning | **Adjudication** | Declaration
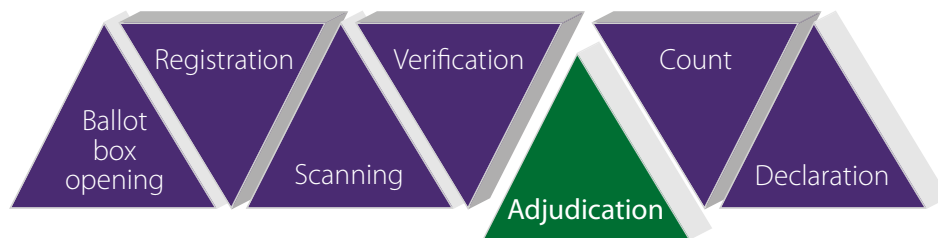
Adjudication will take place at **Desks named RV** (see page 9). Adjudication is the process by which ballot papers with unclear voter intent are received and interpreted by the Adjudication Officer. Once the ballot paper has been scanned, the Intelligent Character Recognition software (ICR) in the system reads the ballot paper and interprets the voter's intent from the marks on the ballot paper. The rules for interpretation of voter's intent for the Scottish Local Elections are embedded within the software. Where the voter's intent is clear and compliant with election rules, adjudication is not required, and the vote passes automatically to the count.

Where the voter's intent is not clear, or the marks are not compliant with the rules, an image of the ballot paper is presented for adjudication along with the current system interpretation of the marks on the ballot paper and the reason for presentation for adjudication.

Adjudication Officers

An Adjudication Officer, who is presented with a full image of the ballot paper and can use the system's zoom and rotation capabilities, conducts the first stage of adjudication.

The Adjudication Officer may correct the system's interpretation of the voter's intent, if necessary, and either:

- accept the ballot paper

- defer the ballot paper for the Returning Officer to perform a second stage adjudication.

The system then automatically presents the next ballot paper for adjudication until all ballot papers are either counted or awaiting Returning Officer adjudication.

All adjudication decisions are fully visible to observers via the dual screen set-up.

Returning Officer Adjudication

Deferred Ballot Papers are reviewed at the RO Adjudication Stations A & B with the option to accept, reject or request the physical Ballot Paper to enable them to make a more informed decision. Any accepted Ballot Papers are included to the count.

Staff will be using the Electoral Commission's guidance on doubtful ballots as the basis for their decisions. Print-outs of this guidance are available throughout the Count Centre for you to refer to.

Count and recounts

Ballot box opening | Registration | Scanning | Verification | Adjudication | **Count** | Declaration
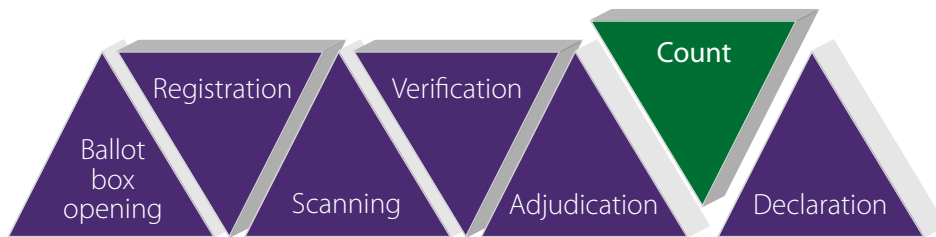
Count process

Once all the ballot papers have been successfully processed, the count is ready to be undertaken. The count process is run ward by ward. There is no need to wait for all wards to complete before running the count process as we have organised the count in such a way that results are declared in a staggered manner while continuing with scanning.
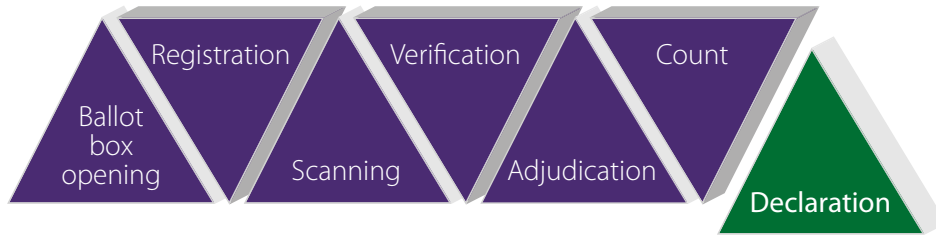
Recount

Candidates or their election agents, but not counting agents, may request a recount. The Returning Officer may conduct a recount but can refuse the request if she believes it to be unreasonable.

The following actions will help to reduce the justification for a recount:

- Rescan individual batches if any discrepancy is identified at the verification stage between the scanned number and the ballot paper account.

- Make available to candidates and agents copies of the verification reports for each ballot box/batch, including explanations for any discrepancies found.

- Follow the procedures set out in the Election Management Board's guidance and information for observers designed to make the eCount process as transparent as possible.

- Provide as much information as possible to candidates and agents regarding where and when each stage of a contest is being conducted through, e.g. public announcements, signage, display screens and information officers.

- Provide clear explanations for decisions on doubtful ballot papers and draft results.

- Enable candidates and agents to raise any questions or concerns at each stage of the count process, and deal with them then and not at the draft result stage.

The closeness of the result should not by itself be a reasonable justification for granting a recount, particularly if the steps outlined are undertaken. Generally, a recount will only be granted for a particular contest if the Returning Officer is not satisfied that all stages of the count have been completed satisfactorily or the integrity of the count has otherwise been impaired.

Declaration of results

Final checks

Once all work on a ward is complete, the Returning Officer will run some final checks to assure herself that all ballot papers have been processed and the count can be completed. The Returning Officer will share the provisional result with candidates and election agents prior to making any formal announcements.

Formal announcement

The formal announcement of the results will take place at various times during the day, as soon as the results become available. There will be no opportunity for speeches and candidates will go onto the podium in alphabetical order. The Returning Officer will then declare the result to the public.

Elected candidates

The successful elected candidates will be provided with Induction Packs. Packs will include an Induction letter, Declaration of Acceptance, Councillors' Code of Conduct and Guidance for Councillors, diary and Induction Programme.

Reports

During the Count the below reports will be made available:

Registration Report – this report shows the number of ballot papers entered onto the system from the Ballot Paper Account at the Registration workstation.

Percentage Turnout Report – this report shows the electorate, the number of papers verified and the percentage turnout for each contest.

Reconciliation Report – this report shows the number of ballot papers registered and verified for each box within a contest.

When a count has been completed the Declaration and the Candidates Votes Per Stage Report will be produced for the respective candidates and agents of the ward.

The full set of reports that will be published on our website for each ward are:

- Candidate Votes Per Stage
- Declaration of Results
- Preference Profile (.blt file)
- Transfers
- First Preference
- Preference Summary.

Who is who / where to go for help?

Returning Officer	Senior Depute Returning Officer	Elections Manager	Count Centre Manager	Depute Returning Officer	Depute Returning Officer
RO	RO	DRO	CCM	DRO	DRO - Zone A
Donna Manson	Kate Lackie	Linda Johnstone	Mark Greig	Cheryl MacIver	Stewart Fraser

Depute Returning Officer	Depute Returning Officer	Depute Returning Officer	Depute Count Manager	Depute Returning Officer (PV)
DRO - Zone A	DRO - Zone B	DRO - Zone B	Various	DRO
Liz Denovan	Alison Clark	David Haas	Stephen Murdoch	Dorothy Mackenzie

Depute Returning Officers

Helen Ross	Fiona Duncan	Nicky Grant	Allan Gunn	Malcolm MacLeod

Corporate Communication Team

Ruth Rountree Provan	Alison MacNeill	Sylvia Tarrant	Graeme Mackay	Anthony Coyle

List of candidates

The name, party and address of each validly nominated candidate is as follows:

Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
BAIRD	Michael	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
GIBSON	Charlotte	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
HUTCHISON	Marianne	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
JARDINE	Robert Alan	Cuilfearn Croft, Strath Halladale, by Kinbrace, Sutherland, KW13 6YT	Freedom Alliance. People Power. Politics.	☐
MORRISON	Hugh	Address in the Highland Council area	Independent	☐
SOLEY	Clive	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Labour Party	☐
TANZER	Philipp	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Family Party: Pro-family, Pro-marriage, Pro- life	☐

Ward 1 — North, West & Central Sutherland

Electorate =	Turn out =	Valid votes =	Number to be elected =	**3**

Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
GLASGOW	Alexander	Address in the Highland Council area	Independent	☐
GREGORY	Iain	Address in the Highland Council area	Independent	☐
GUNN	Ron	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
MACKIE	Struan	28 Ravenshill Road, Pennyland, Thurso KW14 7PX	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
REISS	Matthew	Langland House, Hill of Forss, Thurso, Caithness, KW14 7XQ	Independent	☐
ROSIE	Karl	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐

Ward 2 — Thurso & Northwest Caithness

Electorate =	Turn out =	Valid votes =	Number to be elected =	**4**

Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
BREMNER	Raymond	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
FERNIE	Bill	19 March Road, Wick, Caithness, KW1 5TY	Independent	☐
JARVIE	Andrew	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
MACDONALD	Neil	10 West Banks Terrace, Wick, Caithness, KW1 5NA	Scottish Labour Party	☐
MACKAY	A.I. Willie	36 Oldhall, Watten, Caithness, KW1 5XL	Independent	☐
MCEWAN	Jan	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐

Ward 3 — Wick & East Caithness

Electorate =	Turn out =	Valid votes =	Number to be elected =	**4**

List of candidates

Ward 4 — East Sutherland & Edderton	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
	BANNERMAN	Max	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	☐
	CHRISTIAN	Harry	37 Tower Street, Golspie, KW10 6SB	Scottish Libertarian Party	☐
	GALE	Richard	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	MCGILLIVRAY	Jim	11 School Street, Embo, Dornoch, Sutherland, IV25 3PZ	Independent	☐
	NIVEN	Leslie-anne	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**3**

Ward 5 — Wester Ross, Strathpeffer & Lochalsh	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
	BIRT	Chris	Spa Cottage, Strathpeffer, IV14 9DE	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	CAMPBELL	Biz	The Schoolhouse, Glenshiel, By Kyle, IV40 8HW	Independent	☐
	KERR	Margot	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	KRAFT	Liz	4 Park Avenue, Strathpeffer, IV14 9BN	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	LOGUE	Patrick	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

Ward 6 — Cromarty Firth	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
	BAXTER	Andrew Phillip	12 Riverside Road, Kinlochleven, Argyll, PH50 4QH	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	COLLIER	Tamala	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	FRASER	Eric	Address in the Highland Council area	Independent	☐
	MORELY-SMITH	Maxine	5 Calrichie Cottages, Invergordon, IV18 0LN	Independent	☐
	MUNRO	Pauline	Address in the Highland Council area	Independent	☐
	NOLAN	Molly	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	REAT	Daniel	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Greens – Delivering For Our Community	☐
	STEVENSON	Kate	Allt Na Cuillich, Ardross, Alness, IV17 0XN	Independent	☐
	STEWART	Kirsty	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Labour Party	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

List of candidates

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 7 Tain & Easter Ross	LOUDEN	Derek	Abbian House, Tower Street, Tain, IV19 1DY	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	MORRISON	Veronica	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	RAWLINGS	Sarah	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	RHIND	Alasdair	"Morningside", Scotsburn Road, Tain, IV19 1PU	Independent	☐
	ROBERTSON	Fiona	Tigh-na-Sonas, Newton, By Tain, IV20 1RU	Independent	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**3**

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 8 Dingwall & Seaforth	BERKENHEGER	Gavin	2 Ord Distillery, Muir of Ord, IV6 7UJ	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	HOOD	Les	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	KENNEDY	Sean Edward	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐
	MACKENZIE	Graham Alexander	19 Drumdyre Road, Dingwall, IV15 9RW	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	MACLEAN	Angela	21 Grant Crescent, Maryburgh, Ross-shire, IV7 8EW	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	PATERSON	Margaret	Craiglea, Craig Road, Dingwall, IV15 9LF	Independent	☐
	WIDROW	Thomas	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Greens – Delivering For Our Community	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 9 Black Isle	ATKIN	Sarah	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐
	BRYANT	Margaret	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	JOHNSTON	Lyndsey	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	MACCALLUM	Morven-May	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	MCLENNAN	Okain John	19 Seaforth Drive, Fortrose, Ross-shire, IV10 8RQ	Independent	☐
	SMITH	Bev	Address in the Highland Council Area	Indpendent	☐
	STRATTON	Theo	40 Birch Drive, Maryburgh, Highlands, IV7 8ES	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	THOMAS	Anne	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Greens – Delivering For Our Community	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**3**

List of candidates

Ward	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 10 Eilean a'Cheò	CLARK	Jack	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	FINLAYSON	John	Seabank, Kyleakin, Isle Of Skye, IV41 8PL	Independent	☐
	MACDONALD	Donald	Address in the Highland Council area	Independent	☐
	MACLEOD	Hector	Address in the Highland Council area	Alba Party for Independence	☐
	MILLAR	Drew	6 Carn Dearg Place, Portree, IV51 9PZ	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	MUNRO	Calum	8 Hungladder, Kilmuir, Isle of Skye, IV51 9YT	Indpendent	☐
	Ó DONNGHAILE	Peter	Morsaig, 5 Camus Tianabhaig, Port Righ, IV51 9LQ	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	STEWART	Ruraidh	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	THOMSON	Fay	4 Windsor Crescent, Portree, IV51 9EA	Independent	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

Ward	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 11 Caol & Mallaig	BALDREY	Andrew	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Greens - Delivering For Our Community	☑
	GRAFTON	John Colin	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☑
	SAGGERS	Liz	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☑

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**3**

Ward	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 12 Aird & Loch Ness	BALLANCE	Chris	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Greens – Think Global Act Local	☐
	CRAWFORD	Helen	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	DUNCAN-MACLEOD	Aarron	14 Croyard Park, Beauly, IV4 7JY	Independent	☐
	FRASER	David	Culcreuch, Pitkerrald Road, Drumnadrochit, IV63 6XD	Independent	☐
	KINGHAM	Holly	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	KNOX	Emma	Derin, St Marys Road, Kirkhill, IV5 7NX	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	PERERA	Michael	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Labour Party	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

List of candidates

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 13 Inverness West	BOYD	Bill	15 Royal Ness Court, Inverness, IV3 5TE	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	FORBES	Ryan	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	FORSYTH	Iain	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independence for Scotland Party	☐
	FRASER	Shaun Alexander	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	GRAHAM	Alex	26 Duncraig Street, Inverness, IV3 5DJ	Liberal Democrat Focus Team	☐
	MACKINTOSH	Ryan	13 May Court, Alexander Place, Inverness, IV3 5BT	Scottish Greens – Delivering For Our Community	☐
	MCDONALD	Duncan	4 Heatherley Crescent, Inverness, IV2 4AW	Independent	☐
	SANSUM	David	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐
	SMITH	Helen	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐

Electorate =	Turn out =	Valid votes =	Number to be elected =	**3**

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 14 Inverness Central	BARNETT	Andrew	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐
	CAMERON	Michael	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	MACKENZIE	Donald	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	MACKINNON	Luigi Andrew	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐
	MACLEAN	Kate	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	MCALLISTER	Bet	17 Harris Road, Inverness, IV2 3LS	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	MCCOLL	John William	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Family Party: Pro-Family, Pro-Marriage, Pro-Life	☐
	RATTRAY	Martin	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	ROBERTSON	Sean	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	☐
	SHARMA	Arun	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Greens – Delivering For Our Community	☐

Electorate =	Turn out =	Valid votes =	Number to be elected =	**3**

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 15 Inverness Ness-side	CHRISTIE	Alasdair	7 Balnakyle Road, Lochardil, Inverness, IV2 4BW	Scottish Liberal Democrat Focus Team	☐
	HENDRY	Jackie	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	LIPTROT	Calum Mark	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Libertarian Party	☐
	MACKINTOSH	Andrew	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	MACLEAN	Claire	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Greens – Delivering For Our Community	☐
	MACWILLIAM	Ron	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐
	SCOTT	Ric	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐

Electorate =	Turn out =	Valid votes =	Number to be elected =	**3**

List of candidates

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 16 Inverness Millburn	BROWN	Ian	5 Eastfield Avenue, Inverness, IV2 3RR	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	GREGG	David	26 Miller Road, Inverness, IV2 3EN	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	MACKENZIE	Isabelle	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	WHYTE	Lewis	1 Alltan Park, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7TG	Scottish Labour Party	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**3**

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 17 Culloden & Ardersier	CALVERT	Steven	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	CAMPBELL -SINCLAIR	Glynis	St Clair's House, Cantray, Inverness, IV2 5PW	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	CHEMONGES -MURZYNOWSKA	Mya	Address in the Highland Council Area	Alba Party for independence	☐
	REID	Morven	72 Moray Park Terrace, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7RW	Independent	☐
	ROBERTSON	Mel	Address in the Highland Council Area	Independent	☐
	ROBERTSON	Trish	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	SCANLON	Mary	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**3**

	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
Ward 18 Nairn & Cawdor	BROOKS	Kevin	1 Farnack Street, Nairn, IV12 5SW	Independent	☐
	FRASER	Laurie	Fallowdene, Marine Road, Nairn, IV12 4EA	Independent	☐
	GREEN	Michael	Duncrievie 64 Seabank Road, Nairn, IV12 4HA	Independent	☐
	JARVIE	Barbara Babs	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	MACLEOD	Cal	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Family Party: Pro-Family, Pro-Marriage, Pro-Life	☐
	OLDHAM	Paul	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	REID	Kevin James	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	SMITH	Marjory	Address in the Highland Council Area	Alba Party for independence	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

Ward 19 Inverness South	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
	AITKEN	Colin	3A Celt Street, inverness, IV3 5JD	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	DUNCAN	Jimmy	Address in the Highland Council Area	Alba Party for independence	☐
	FILER	Claire	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Greens – Delivering For Our Community	☐
	GOWANS	Ken	9 Woodlands Grove, Westhill, Inverness, IV2 5DU	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	JARDINE	David	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Labour Party	☐
	MACPHERSON	Duncan	19 Towerhill Avenue, Cradlehall, Inverness, IV2 5FX	Independent	☐
	SINCLAIR	Andrew	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

Ward 20 Badenoch & Strathspey	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
	BRUCE	John	Lodge Of Finlairg, Dulnain Bridge, Grantown on Spey, PH26 3NU	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	☐
	COCKBURN	Muriel	Address in the Highland Council Area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	FALLOWS	Dave	Woodlea, Main St, Newtonmore, PH20 1DA	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	GALLACHER	Declan	28 Kylintra Crescent, Grantown On Spey, PH26 3ES	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	HADLEY	Pippa	Address in the Highland Council Area	Re-elect Your Scottish Green Councillor	☐
	JONES	Russell	47 Croila Road, Kingussie, PH21 1PB	Independent	☐
	LOBBAN	Bill	Pawprints, Dalfaber, Aviemore, PH22 1QD	Independent	☐
	WHELAN	Charlie	Sealladh Na Beinne, Skye of Curr, Dulnain Bridge, Grantown-on-Spey PH26 3PA	Scottish Labour Party	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

Ward 21 Fort William & Ardnamurchan	Candidate Name		Address	Party	Elected
	FANET	Sarah	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish National Party (SNP)	☐
	FAWCETT	Fiona	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	☐
	MACDONALD	Angus	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Liberal Democrats	☐
	MACLENNAN	Thomas	Address in the Highland Council area	Independent	☐
	WILLIS	Kate	Address in the Highland Council area	Scottish Green Party	☐

Electorate =		Turn out =		Valid votes =		Number to be elected =	**4**

Where the candidate has given a commonly used surname and/or forename on that candidate's nomination form, it is that commonly used surname and/or forename (instead of any other name) that will appear on the Notice of Poll.

Only those persons who are registered to vote in the ward and aged 16 or over on the day of the poll will be eligible to vote.

**Donna Manson, The Returning Officer,
Elections Office, The Highland Council, Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX.**

Multi-member Wards

(from 4th May 2017)

North, West & Central Sutherland (1)

Thurso and Northwest Caithness (2)

Wick and East Caithness (3)

East Sutherland and Edderton (4)

Wester Ross, Strathpeffer & Lochalsh (5)

Cromarty Firth (6)

Tain and Easter Ross (7)

Dingwall & Seaforth (8)

Black Isle (9)

Culloden & Ardersier (17)

Eilean a' Cheò (10)

Nairn and Cawdor (18)

Inverness South (19)

Aird & Loch Ness (12)

Badenoch & Strathspey (20)

Caol & Mallaig (11)

Fort William & Ardnamurchan (21)

Inverness Central (14)

Inverness West (13)

Inverness Millburn (16)

Inverness Ness-side (15)

INVERNESS

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Ward number and Ward name	Number of Members	Ward number and Ward name	Number of Members	Ward number and Ward name	Number of Members
1 North, West & Central Sutherland	3	8 Dingwall & Seaforth	4	15 Inverness Ness-Side	3
2 Thurso & Northwest Caithness	4	9 Black Isle	3	16 Inverness Millburn	3
3 Wick & East Caithness	4	10 Eilean a' Cheò	4	17 Culloden & Ardersier	3
4 East Sutherland & Edderton	3	11 Caol & Mallaig	3	18 Nairn & Cawdor	4
5 Wester Ross, Strathpeffer & Lochalsh	4	12 Aird & Loch Ness	4	19 Inverness South	4
6 Cromarty Firth	4	13 Inverness West	3	20 Badenoch & Strathspey	4
7 Tain & Easter Ross	3	14 Inverness Central	3	21 Fort William & Ardnamurchan	4
				Wards 21	**Members 74**

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