To: Cc:

RE: Public Consultation Polling Districts and Places 03 October 2023 11:51:06 image001.png image002.png Subject:

Thank you for your response. In hindsight, the entry is part of the formal consultation process and will remain. As you state it reinforces the case to move away from the school

Many thanks for your contribution

With my kind regards, The Election Office

From:

Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:24 AM To: Election <election@highland.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Public Consultation Polling Districts and Places

CAUTION: This email was sent from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for clarification. As it is a consultation though, not yet confirmed you are moving from the school to the hall. I would presume you would want to know how the community feel about it. I am very strongly of the view the primary school should not be used. Happy to amend my feedback to state that.

On 3 Oct 2023, at 09:28, Election < election@highland.gov.uk > wrote:

#### Alternative Location Suggestion - Ardgour Hall

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Ardgour Primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from Ardgour Primary School to the Ardgour Memorial Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

In light of your comment, we have revised our website and simplified the information displayed.

Would you be happy to withdraw your comment?

Thanking your for in advance for your participation.

Ward 21 - Cur	Ward 21 - Current (2019)			
Polling Place	Polling Place Name			
Identifier				
R21F	ARDGOUR PRIMARY SCHOOL			
Ward 21 - Pro	Ward 21 – Proposal (2023)			
Polling Place	Polling Place Name			
Identifier (*)				
AS21F	ARDGOUR MEMORIAL HALL			
Polling Place Changes:				
The primary changes proposed to the 2019 polling scheme are as follows;				
Relocation from the Acharacle Primary School to the Shiel Bridge Hall.				

- Relocation from the Strontian Primary School to the Strontian Hall. Relocation from the Ardgour Primary School to the Ardgour Memorial Hall.
- Relocation from the Inverlochy Primary School to the Inverlochy Village Hall.
- Relocation from the Kinlochleven Primary School to the Leven Centre.



With our kind regards
The Election Office

Unless related to the business of The Highland Council, the views or opinions expressed within this e-mail are those of the sender and do not necessarily reflect those of The Highland Council, or associated bodies, nor does this e-mail form part of any contract unless so stated.

Mura h-eil na beachdan a tha air an cur an cèill sa phost-d seo a' buntainn ri gnothachas Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd, 's ann leis an neach fhèin a chuir air falbh e a tha iad, is chan eil iad an-còmhnaidh a' riochdachadh beachdan na Comhairle, no buidhnean buntainneach, agus chan eil am post-d seo na phàirt de chunnradh sam bith mura h-eil sin air innse.

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 15

**Date:** 03 October 2023 14:17:21

Attachments: <u>image006.png</u>

image002.emz image001.png

# Alternative Location Suggestion - Culduthel Christian Centre

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Holm Primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from Holm Primary School to the Culduthel Christian Centre. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Thanking you for your participation With our kind regards
The Election Office

Ward 15 – Current (2019)				
Polling Place Identifier Polling Place Name				
I15D HOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL				
Ward 15 – Proposal (2023)				
Polling Place Identifier (*) Polling Place Name				
II15D	CULDUTHEL CHRISTIAN CENTRE			



To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 20

**Date:** 03 October 2023 14:12:00

# **Cromdale Village Hall**

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of Polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

Cc: <u>Election</u>

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Review ward 13

**Date:** 03 October 2023 14:09:05

# Muirtown Primary, Inverness or Charleston Academy Community Complex, General Booth Road, Inverness

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office From:

To: Election

**Subject:** Re: Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5

**Date:** 03 October 2023 16:59:11

**CAUTION:** This email was sent from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

That's great!

Many thanks for your reply.

Kind regards,

Sent from my iPhone

On 3 Oct 2023, at 15:55, Election < election@highland.gov.uk > wrote:

# **Alternative Location Suggestion – Applecross Hall**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Applecross Primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from Applecross Primary School to the Village Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 5 – Current (2019)			
Polling Place	Polling Place Name		
Identifier			
R05I	APPLECROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL		
Ward 5 – Pro	posed (2023)		
<b>Polling Place</b>	Polling Place Name		
Identifier (*)			
IC05I	APPLECROSS VILLAGE HALL		
	*Polling Place Change		

<sup>&</sup>lt;image003.png>

<image001.png>

Thanking your for in advance for your participation With our kind regards
The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5

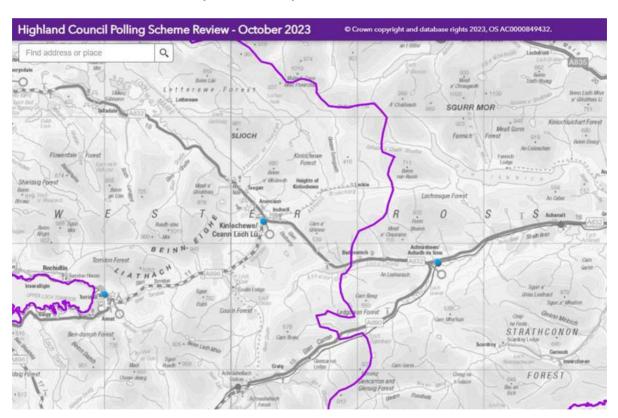
**Date:** 03 October 2023 14:58:00

#### Alternative Location Suggestion Kinlochewe Village Hall

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion to use the Kinlochewe Village Hall in lieu of the Achnasheen Village Hall.

Our proposal for the use and retention of both the Kinlochewe Village Hall and the Achnasheen Village Hall, although in close proximity to one another, has been made due to each location being sited in a different UK parliamentary constituency. To ensure an accurate and efficient polling and counting process it is necessary to practice separate polling places to prevent cross-constituency confusion.

We have activated the relevant layers and extracted the image below from our Interactive Map for your information. The Kinlochewe Village Hall resides and facilitates electors within the Inverness, Skye and West Ross-shire UK Parliamentary Constituency, where as the Achnasheen Village Hall facilitates electors within the Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross UK Parliamentary Constituency.



In the hope that this clarifies our position.

We thank you for your contribution and participation
With our kind regards,
The Election Office

From: <u>Linda Johnstone (Elections)</u>

To: <u>Election</u>

Cc: Stephen Murdoch (Elections)

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5 - ID7/8

**Date:** 04 October 2023 15:38:59

#### PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESPONSE WARD 5 - SUBMISSIONS ID7 / ID8

The elector accepted the election teams response to both of the submissions. The elector understood that although in close proximity both polling stations noted within their initial response were necessary due to the separation caused by the UK Parliamentary boundary. Following a second response from the elector a telephone conversation was undertaken with said elector. The second submission made note to encourage postal voting in an effort to save money however following the telephone conversation and explanation that the way to vote just for postal voting cannot be encouraged – only the different means of voting can be explained and made aware to the voter. The electoral register and the postal voting registration is not dealt by the Election Team but by the electoral registration office. The elector accepted and understand the rational of our proposal.

The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5

**Date:** 04 October 2023 10:14:51

Attachments: image003.png

image001.png

# **Alternative Location Suggestion – Applecross Hall**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Applecross Primary School.

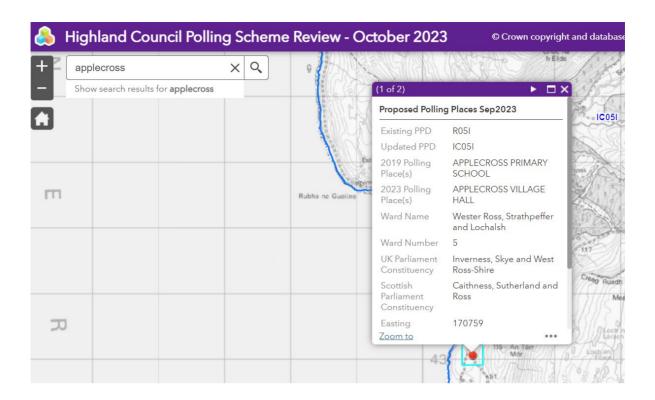
Our proposal actually includes the move from Applecross Primary School to the Village Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 5 - Curi	Ward 5 – Current (2019)		
<b>Polling Place</b>	Polling Place Name		
Identifier			
R05I	APPLECROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL		
Ward 5 - Prop	posed (2023)		
<b>Polling Place</b>	Polling Place Name		
Identifier (*)			
IC05I	APPLECROSS VILLAGE HALL		
	*Polling Place Change		

#### **Polling Place Changes:**

The primary changes proposed to the 2019 polling scheme are as follows;

- Relocation from the Ullapool Primary School to the Ullapool Village Hall.
- Relocation from the Badcaul Primary School, Dundonnell to the NHS Community Clinic, Dundonnell.
- Relocation from the Applecross Primary School to the Applecross Village Hall.



Thanking you for your participation With our kind regards
The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Review Ward 9

**Date:** 04 October 2023 10:13:35

# **Findon Hall Culbokie**

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5 ID 10

**Date:** 04 October 2023 15:22:00

Attachments: image001.png

#### Alternative Location Suggestion - Ullapool Primary

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Ullapool Primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from Ullapool Primary School to the Village Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 5 - Curre	Ward 5 – Current (2019)		
Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name		
R05B	ULLAPOOL PRIMARY SCHOOL		
Ward 5 - Prop	posed (2023)		
Polling Place	Polling Place Name		
ldentifier (*)			
CC05B	ULLAPOOL VILLAGE HALL		



Thank you for your participation With our kind regards The Election Office From: <u>Linda Johnstone (Elections)</u>

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 2 - ID 11

**Date:** 04 October 2023 14:32:00

Attachments: image001.png

image002.png image003.png

#### THURSO - Ward 2

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of Polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution. We understand from your response that you are happy with our proposal as indicated below. Please let us know if this is not the case.

#### WARD 2 - THURSO AND NORTHWEST CAITHNESS

#### **Polling District Changes:**

There are no proposed changes to the current polling districts within Ward 2 – Thurso and Northwest Caithness.

#### Polling Place Changes:

The primary changes proposed to the 2019 polling scheme are as follows;

- Relocation from the Mount Pleasant Primary School, Thurso to the Royal British Legion, Thurso.
- Relocation from the Mount Pleasant Primary School, Thurso to the Thurso Leisure
- Relocation from the Pennyland Primary School, Thurso to the Royal British Legion, Thurso.
- Relocation from the Halkirk Primary School to the Ross Institute, Halkirk.

### Other Changes:

· Update to historic Polling Place District identifiers.

Ward 2 – Current (2019)			
Polling Place	Polling Place Polling Place Name		
ldentifier			
C02A	MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMARY SCHOOL, THURSO		
C02B	PENNYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, THURSO		
C02C	PENNYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, THURSO		
C02D	CASTLETOWN DRILL HALL		
C02E	REAY VILLAGE HALL		
C02F	HALKIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL		
C02G	BOWER COMMUNITY CENTRE		
C02H	BRITANNIA HALL, DUNNET		
C02I	MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMARY SCHOOL, THURSO		
Ward 2 – Proposed (2023)			

Polling Place Identifier (*)	Polling Place Name
CC02A	THURSO LEISURE CENTRE
CC02B	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, THURSO
CC02C	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, THURSO
CC02D	CASTLETOWN DRILL HALL
CC02E	REAY VILLAGE HALL
CC02F	ROSS INSTITUE, HALKIRK
CC02G	BOWER COMMUNITY CENTRE
CC02H	BRITANNIA HALL, DUNNET
CC02I	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, THURSO
	Polling Place Change

Many thanks for your participation, With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5 ID12

**Date:** 05 October 2023 10:10:50

Attachments: image003.png

image001.png

# **Alternative Location Suggestion – Applecross Hall**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Applecross Primary School.

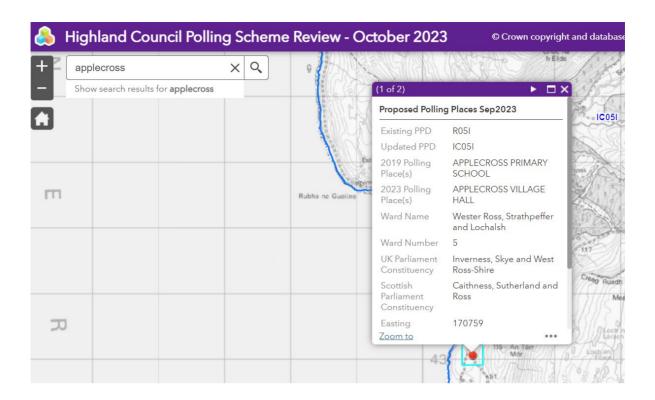
Our proposal actually includes the move from Applecross Primary School to the Village Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 5 - Curi	Ward 5 – Current (2019)		
<b>Polling Place</b>	Polling Place Name		
Identifier			
R05I	APPLECROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL		
Ward 5 - Prop	posed (2023)		
<b>Polling Place</b>	Polling Place Name		
Identifier (*)			
IC05I	APPLECROSS VILLAGE HALL		
	*Polling Place Change		

#### **Polling Place Changes:**

The primary changes proposed to the 2019 polling scheme are as follows;

- Relocation from the Ullapool Primary School to the Ullapool Village Hall.
- Relocation from the Badcaul Primary School, Dundonnell to the NHS Community Clinic, Dundonnell.
- Relocation from the Applecross Primary School to the Applecross Village Hall.



Thanking you for your participation With our kind regards
The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 21

**Date:** 09 October 2023 08:15:00

# **Ardgour Memorial Hall**

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of Polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office

From: Election

To: Subject: Date: Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 10 16 October 2023 07:26:00

# Dunvegan

Ward 10 – Current (2019)		Ward 10 – Proposed (2023)	
Polling Place			Polling Place Name
Polling Place Identifier	Name	Polling Place Identifier	
	DUNVEGAN		
	PRIMARY		
R10G	SCHOOL	IS10G	DUNVEGAN COMMUNITY CENTRE

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of Polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Public Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 17 ID 16

**Date:** 18 October 2023 11:39:00

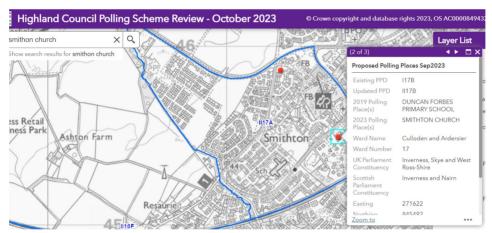
Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

# **Alternative Location Suggestion for Duncan Forbes Primary School**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from the School to Smithton Church. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 17 – Current (2019)		Ward 17 – Proposal (2023)	
Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name
	DUNCAN FORBES PRIMARY		
I17B	SCHOOL	II17B	SMITHTON CHURCH



Thanking your for in advance for your participation.

The Election Office

Го:

**Subject:** Public Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 15 ID 17

**Date:** 18 October 2023 13:16:14

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

# **Alternative Location Suggestion for Lochardil Primary School**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from the Primary School to the IRA Sports Facility Centre which is independent from the Academy. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 15 – Current (2019)		Ward 15 – Proposal (2023)	
Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name
			INVERNESS ROYAL ACADEMY
115A	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15A	(SPORTS FACILITY)
			INVERNESS ROYAL ACADEMY
I15C	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15C	(SPORTS FACILITY)



Thanking you for your participation.

The Election Office

To:

Cc: <u>Election</u>

**Subject:** RE: Consultation Polling Districts and Places Review ward 8 ID 18

**Date:** 23 October 2023 19:07:26

Thanks for confirming.

Best regards Linda Johnstone

From:

**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 9:46 AM **To:** Election <election@highland.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Consultation Polling Districts and Places Review ward 8 ID 18

**CAUTION:** This email was sent from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi there, sorry yes - Dingwall Library is part of the Dingwall Academy building. Moving to the Leisure Centre wouldn't cause any issues for us.

Thanks!

#### Sent from Outlook for Android

**From:** Election <election@highland.gov.uk> **Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 9:43:21 AM

To

Cc: Election <election@highland.gov.uk>

Subject: Consultation Polling Districts and Places Review ward 8 ID 18

# **Dingwall Academy**

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

Please note that that we do not use the secondary school but our proposal is to move from the Dingwall library to the Dingwall Leisure Centre.

Ward 8 – Current (2019)		Ward 8 – Proposed (2023)	
Polling	Polling Place Name	Polling	Polling Place Name
Place		Place	
Identifier		Identifier	
C08A	DINGWALL LIBRARY	CS08A	DINGWALL LEISURE CENTRE
R08A	DINGWALL LIBRARY		

If you have any further comments please do get in touch With our kind regards,
The Election Office

To:

Attachments:

Cc: <u>Election</u>

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Review ward 17 ID 19

**Date:** 24 October 2023 11:42:00

image003.png

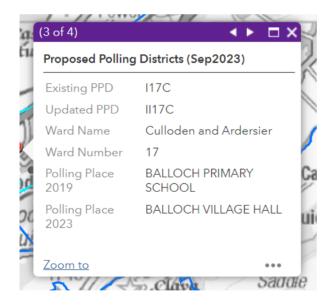
image002.emz image004.png

#### **BALLOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

Please note that our proposal is not to use the school but the Balloch Village Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our Interactive Map. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 17 – Current (2019)		Ward 17 – Proposal (2023)	
Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name
117C	BALLOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL	II17C	BALLOCH VILLAGE HALL



To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 10 ID 21

**Date:** 06 November 2023 06:24:07

# Recommendation to Use Minginish Community Hall instead of Carbost Primary School

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of Polling districts and polling places and note your recommendation to use Minginish Community Hall instead of Carbost Primary School.

The Minginish Community Hall has indeed been used for elections in the past and following your survey whereby 84% voted for the Hall, we have considered and changed the location for both polling districts as indicated below. Additionally, as you mentioned, using the hall will avoid any school closure for an unscheduled election.

Ward 10 – Current (2019)		Ward 10 – Proposed (2023)	
R10J	CARBOST PRIMARY SCHOOL	IS10J	MINGINISH COMMUNITY HALL
R10K	CARBOST PRIMARY SCHOOL	IS10K	MINGINISH COMMUNITY HALL

We thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office From: Linda Johnstone (Elections)

To:

**Subject:** Public Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 15 ID 22

**Date:** 14 November 2023 19:13:00

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Thank you for your contribution to the Public Consultation. In light of your comments provided with our proposal moving away from both Lochardil and Holm primary school, we have further consulted with our ward members and our proposal for the ward has been amended to retain the same polling places as per 2019 scheme and introduce a new polling place for the Ness Castle area.

Ward 15 – Current (2019)		Ward 15 – Proposal (2023)	
Polling Place	Polling Place Name	Polling Place	Polling Place Name
Identifier		Identifier	
I15A	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15A	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL
I15B	CAULDEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15B	CAULDEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
I15C	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15C	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL
I15D	HOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15D	HOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL
		II15E	NESS CASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 1 ID 23

**Date:** 14 November 2023 18:44:00

# **Lochinver Village Hall**

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of Polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Public Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 11 ID 24

**Date:** 14 November 2023 18:50:01

# **Achnacarry Village Hall**

We acknowledge your entry and response with regard to our public consultation on the review of Polling districts and polling places and thank you for your contribution.

With our kind regards, The Election Office

Bcc:

**Subject:** Public Consultation Statutory Review Polling Districts & Places Ward 9 ID 25/26/27/29

**Date:** 14 November 2023 18:34:06

Attachments: image001.png

image003.png

# **Alternative Location Suggestion – Resolis Memorial Hall**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Resolis primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from Resolis Primary School to the Resolis Memorial Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our <u>interactive map</u>. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 9 – Current (2019)		Ward 9 – Proposed (2023)	
Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name
R09E	RESOLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL	CS09E	RESOLIS MEMORIAL HALL



# Proposed Polling Places Sep2023

Existing PPD R09E Updated PPD CS09E

2019 Polling Place(s) RESOLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL
2023 Polling Place(s) RESOLIS MEMORIAL HALL

Ward Name Black Isle

Ward Number 9

UK Parliament Constituency Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross

Scottish Parliament Constituency Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch

Easting 268259

Northing 865036

What3Words ///dentistry.windows.every

UPRN 000130087541

Status Change

...

Thank you for your contribution With our kind regards The Election Office From:

To: <u>Election</u>

**Subject:** Public Consultation Ward 9 ID 30 **Date:** 16 November 2023 11:56:00

# **Alternative Location Suggestion - Royal Hotel, Cromarty**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion to use the Royal Hotel instead of the Victoria Village Hall because of accessibility issues.

As part of our review we conduct accessibility assessments of the venues and with regard to the Victoria Hall, we note that it is wheelchair accessible but confirm that it does not have designated disabled parking spaces. For any of our polling venues that do not have designated disabled parking, a temporary arrangement will be put in place on the day of the poll by our staff. This polling venue has been used for previous elections and we are not looking to introduce any changes as part of our proposal.

We thank you for your contribution, With our kind regards, The Election Office From: <u>Linda Johnstone (Elections)</u>

To:

**Subject:** Statutory Review of Polling Districts and Places Ward 13 ID 31

**Date:** 15 November 2023 08:25:00

We thank you for your comment provided on the polling place Muirtown Primary School and we are really sorry to hear about the incident with the dog.

We can assure you that only assistance animals for disabled people are allowed into the polling station and, to address this particular incident, we will reinforce in our training for our polling staff that any dog or animal should not be tied, or held by any member of staff, near the entrance and the route to of the polling place.

In the hope that this provides you with the reassurance that we are taking the correct action to avoid any future reoccurrences,

With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Public Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 15 ID

**Date:** 32 15 November 2023 08:09:00

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Thank you for your contribution to the Public Consultation. In light of a number of comments received on our proposal moving away from both Lochardil and Holm primary school, we have further consulted with our ward members and our proposal for the ward has been amended to retain the same polling places as per 2019 scheme and introduce a new polling place for the Ness Castle area as indicated below.

Ward 15 – Current (2019)		Ward 15 – Proposal (2023)	
Polling Place	Polling Place Name	Polling Place	Polling Place Name
Identifier		Identifier	
I15A	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15A	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL
I15B	CAULDEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15B	CAULDEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
I15C	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15C	LOCHARDIL PRIMARY SCHOOL
I15D	HOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL	II15D	HOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL
		II15E	NESS CASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

With our kind regards, The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5 ID 33

**Date:** 15 November 2023 07:25:15

Attachments: image003.png

image002.png

# Alternative Location Suggestion - Ullapool Village Hall

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Ullapool Primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from Ullapool Primary School to the Village Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our <u>interactive map</u>. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 5 – Current (2019) Ward		Ward 5 – Propos	- Proposed (2023)	
Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name	
R05B	ULLAPOOL PRIMARY SCHOOL	CC05B	ULLAPOOL VILLAGE HALL	

#### Polling Place Changes:

The primary changes proposed to the 2019 polling scheme are as follows;

- · Relocation from the Ullapool Primary School to the Ullapool Village Hall.
- Relocation from the Badcaul Primary School, Dundonnell to the NHS Community Clinic, Dundonnell.
- Relocation from the Applecross Primary School to the Applecross Village Hall.

# Proposed Polling Places Sep2023 Existing PPD R05B Updated PPD CC05B

2019 Polling Place(s)

ULLAPOOL PRIMARY SCHOOL

2023 Polling Place(s)

ULLAPOOL VILLAGE HALL

Ward Name Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh

Ward Number 5

UK Parliament Constituency Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross

Scottish Parliament Constituency Caithness, Sutherland and Ross

 Easting
 212812

 Northing
 894212

What3Words ///regarding.legal.meals

UPRN 000130106841

Status Change

Thanking you for your participation With our kind regards
The Election Office

To:

**Subject:** Consultation Polling Districts and Places Ward 5 ID 34

**Date:** 15 November 2023 07:19:04

#### **Ullapool Village Hall**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Ullapool Primary School and comments with regard to the arrangements required for the elderly and people with disabilities for the village hall.

Prior to including a polling place we conduct an assessment as to the suitability for the location to serve as a polling place. Additionally, we can assure that the Presiding Officer of the Polling Place on the day of the poll has a specific checklist to make sure that the polling place is fully accessible, this includes among others signage, specific devices for the blind and partially sighted, large-print of ballot paper and information on available assistance from the Presiding Officer if required.

All our polling places are equipped with low-level polling booths with chairs available for people to rest or while waiting to vote.

Thanking you for your participation With our kind regards
The Election Office

To:

Subject: Public Consultation Statutory Review Polling Districts & Places Ward 9 ID 35

**Date:** 15 November 2023 06:54:25

Attachments: image001.png

image003.png

# **Alternative Location Suggestion – Resolis Memorial Hall**

Thank you for responding to our public consultation with regard to our review of Polling districts and polling places. We note your suggestion not to use the Resolis primary School.

Our proposal actually includes the move from Resolis Primary School to the Resolis Memorial Hall. This has been documented in our published Consultation paper and our <u>interactive map</u>. I have extracted the relevant part below for your information.

Ward 9 – Current (2019)		Ward 9 – Proposed (2023)	
Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Identifier	Polling Place Name
R09E	RESOLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL	CS09E	RESOLIS MEMORIAL HALL



# Proposed Polling Places Sep2023

Existing PPD R09E Updated PPD CS09E

2019 Polling Place(s) RESOLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL
2023 Polling Place(s) RESOLIS MEMORIAL HALL

Ward Name Black Isle

Ward Number 9

UK Parliament Constituency Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross

Scottish Parliament Constituency Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch

Easting 268259

Northing 865036

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UPRN 000130087541

Status Change

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Thank you for your contribution With our kind regards The Election Office From:

To: <u>Election</u>

**Subject:** Representation - Review of Polling Places and Districts 2023

**Date:** 07 November 2023 13:19:17

Attachments: Abriachan Village Hall Letter to HC.pdf

**CAUTION:** This email was sent from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Highland Council Election Office,

Please find attached a response to the Public Consultation on the Statutory Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2023 from the committee at Abriachan Village Hall.

If there is any issue with the attached document please let me know.

Many thanks,

To:

**Subject:** Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places Ward 12 ID 36

**Date:** 20 November 2023 14:04:05

# To: Chair Abriachan Village Hall committee

We thank you for your letter of 6 November 2023 with regard to the Abriachan Hall and the local campaign to support the retention of this polling place.

Our proposal now includes the Abriachan Village Hall as part of the polling scheme.

We thank you and the local community for your contribution

With our kind regards,

The Election Office

The Highland Council, The Election Office Glenurquhart Road Inverness IV3 5NX

Dear Highland Council Election Office,

We were delighted to hear via Cllr Fraser about the decision to reverse the proposal to discontinue the use of Abriachan Village hall as a Polling Stations as suggested in the Statutory Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

On behalf of Abriachan residents, we'd like to formally thank Cllr David Fraser for his petition on our behalf as well as thank the Inverness West Community Council for their help in raising the issue in the first instance. Prior to learning of the now positive outcome, we had been campaigning locally and had planned to submit a Representation on the Proposal as part of the public consultation process. We feel there is still merit in submitting these individual responses to you to represent the strong feeling held within the community at the suggestion of the loss of the hall now or in the future.

Please see the attached document for a collection of statements from Abriachan residents.

Kind regards,

The Abriachan Village Hall Committee objects to the Statutory Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places's proposal to discontinue the use of the hall as a Polling Station in favour of Dochgarroch Primary School now and in the future.

The following statements are all from Abriachan residents. Several residents requested their responses remain anonymous.

"There is no public transport from the centre of Abriachan to Dochgarroch nor is there a safe cycle route. The relocation of the polling station will therefore create difficulties for people who want to vote but are unable to drive, including young voters who should be given every encouragement to take part in the process. The relocation would also mean travel by car to the polling station which is not very carbon clever. There is usually a very high turnout of Abriachan people when there is an election and one of the reasons must be that it is very convenient to have the polling station in the public hall which is at the centre of the community." Anonymous, Abriachan resident

"I am against this proposal. Voting in person is critical for democracy and any barrier to doing so can lead to disenfranchisement for persons who cannot easily travel to a polling station that is not in their immediate community. Putting any obstacle in the way of voting diminishes the principles of democracy." Anonymous, Abriachan resident

"Abriachan is a rapidly expanding community and the village hall is essential in all aspects of local life. There are a lot of elderly folk who would be less likely to travel to Dochgarroch to vote and would therefore be disenfranchised. Weather conditions could also affect journeys to Dochgarroch. Please keep the polling booths open in the village hall."

Anonymous, Abriachan resident

"Turn out for voting is low enough and losing our community voting place would make this worse. My husband works long hours in the opposite direction and gets home in time to vote at the hall. If he had to travel then to Dochgarroch it might not happen. Just another erosion of community life and government control." Anonymous, Abriachan resident

"I strongly object to close Abriachan Village Hall as a polling station. Democracy is everywhere in the country. It is very important to be close to the voters. It's a no tolerance policy. Not a single reduction of polling stations is acceptable. Otherwise we'll end up voting in Edinburgh or London."

"We are very upset to learn about the proposal to discontinue the polling station at Abriachan Community Hall, especially in view of the statement in the Highland Council Review Paper that polling stations need to be easy to get to, accessible to all voters and to have appropriate capacity and facilities. The Abriachan Polling Station is within easy

walking distance of a lot of residents, whereas Dochgarroch Primary School would involve at least a twelve mile round trip by vehicle for all voters. This does not seem appropriate in light of the move towards being environmentally friendly. For many years we have been fortunate to be within walking distance of polling stations where we lived and we feel this proposal would create an unnecessary barrier to our right to vote. We also note that the Paper also states that the use of schools is to be avoided. We consider that this proposal is a retrograde step and will make voting by the Abriachan community a lot more difficult and time consuming." Abriachan residents

"Abriachan is a polling station that is well used by its attendant voters role. AS a local councillor and as a local voter, I have always been impressed by a good turn out, the local population trust their polling station and turn out. The cost of using the Hall must be minimal and cannot be used for the reason for not using the hall. I am presuming the use of the school would also mean that school would be closed for the day. That is not at all good for the young people, with the disruptive education they have had over the past 3 years and continue to have. Finally there is no bus route except along the A82 and that would be difficult for many people to access. A disturbing and unwanted decision."

Abriachan resident

"This will cause a tangible reduction in the number of Abriachan voters. The demographic of residents will mean the older members of the community will not be able to get lifts to Dochgarroch to vote because those who are employed won't have time or willingness to retrace their travel routes after work. The voters who would aim to use public transport won't bother, given the reduced frequency of and seats on buses, the distance to walk down the single track brae and the time it would take to get to the polling station. At a time when we are encouraging our young people to be proactive in decision making in our democracy, this cost-cutting decision by Highland Council is extremely short sighted."

Abriachan resident

"So much in our society is decided through a myriad of short term, and often illusionary attempts to 'cut budgets', 'streamline' services; an approach to the world through a lens of scarcity, the erosion of community, which later on we tend to 'pay the price for'. I feel we are way past the time not to be questioning this narrative, and ensuring that imagination and creativity are not lost, with a view to building capacity and resilience for our ancestors yet to come. There are many wonderful people within this community, and across the country who understand the responsibility to acknowledge our privileges, and use these to take action, nurture and grow that which is vital and necessary. Many around the world are not able to have this voice. The village hall as a polling place is part of the community ecology, and democracy. I wish for this conversation to take into account all voices, including that of the earth, which asks us to make ecological decisions which bring us into right relationship again. Thank you."

"I object to the proposal to move the polling station from Abriachan to Dochgarroch Primary School. Currently the Abriachan polling station is within walking distance of my home, if it were to be moved to Dochgarroch it would involve making a round trip of over 10 miles in my car in order to cast my vote which is not environmentally friendly and if there were adverse weather conditions on the polling day would mean I would not be able to get to a polling station in order to cast my vote. There is no public transport from Abriachan, meaning anyone who does not have access to a car and younger voters who do not drive would be effectively be disenfranchised." Abriachan resident

"Franchise is important as is the ability to walk to the Polling Station thereby reducing my carbon footprint and helping the environment. I strongly object to this proposal."

Abriachan resident

"Abriachan has a high proportion of elderly residents who make up a high proportion of the voting public. Taking away the ability to walk to the polling station is a violation of human rights and forcing people to travel in a vehicle for a long distance, thereby increasing air pollution and wear and tear on the vehicle and the road is counter productive." Abriachan resident