



Notice of Community Council Interim Election For Newly Formed or Merged Community Councils

As a result of the last [Scheme of Establishment Review](#), this interim election applies to newly formed or merged Community Councils with vacancies where the number of serving Community Councillors remains above half of the total membership.

Nominations are now open to fill vacancies for the following **Highland Community Councils**:

Community Council	Change	Max Membership	Vacancies
Bower and Castletown	Merged Bower and Castletown	8	2
Cawdor & West Nairnshire	Merged with East Nairnshire	9	4

If you are interested in making a difference in your local area, consider standing for your Community Council. To be eligible, you must be at least 16 years old by the close of nominations, be registered to vote on the local government electoral register and live within the Community Council area. If you're eligible, simply complete the online nomination form available at www.highland.gov.uk/ccelections.

Key dates:

From Thursday 27 August 2026 until Monday 14 September 2026	When nomination forms can be submitted
No later than Tuesday 15 September 2026	Publication of list of nominated candidates and notices whether the Community Council has formed, not formed or is contested.
Tuesday 22 September 2026 by 12noon	Latest date whereby nominated candidates can withdraw from standing.
Tuesday 22 September 2026 before 4pm	following the close of the withdrawal period, should the number of candidates validly nominated be less or equal to the total maximum permitted membership, the said candidates will be declared elected from this date and no ballot shall be held.

Close of Nominations

Following the close of nominations, the statements of persons nominated for each community council will be published on the council's website www.highland.gov.uk/ccelections with the notices of which Community Councils would require an election.

Withdrawal of Nominations

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If you decide to withdraw your nomination, you can do so within the stipulated timeframe, by emailing ccelection@highland.gov.uk, stating your name and the Community Council from which you wish to withdraw from.

Contested Community Council

A contest will only take place on **Thursday 15 October 2026** where the number of valid Nominations exceeds the membership number of the relevant Community Council.

Personal statement for contested Community Council

If an election is required, each candidate in the contested Community Council will be asked to submit a personal statement. This should be a summary of no more than 75 words, providing information about yourself in support of your nomination.

If you need any assistance accessing or completing the online form or need any clarification, please contact the election helpline on 01349 886657 or email ccelection@highland.gov.uk.

Please see our [website](#) to find out more about Community Councils.

DEREK BROWN
Returning Officer for the Highland Council
Date: Thursday 27 August 2026