
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	29 November 2018
Report By:	Chief Executive	Report No:	LP/122/18
Contact Officer:	Gerard Malone	Contact No:	01475 712710
Subject:	Statutory Review of Polling Scheme		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to (i) advise Members of the need to carry out a statutory review of the Council's Polling Scheme and (ii) ask Members to approve the draft Polling Scheme detailed in Appendix 3 and the timetable in respect thereof, as detailed in Appendix 1.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 In terms of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended) local authorities are required to (i) designate polling places for the purposes of elections and (ii) review those arrangements at least every four years.
- 2.2 The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places with compulsory reviews to be started and completed within the period of 16 months that starts on 1 October of every fifth year after 1 October 2013.
- 2.3 The Council last carried out a statutory review in 2014 and a subsequent interim review took place in 2016. In terms of the legislation, it must now carry out the compulsory statutory review between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020.
- 2.4 It is therefore proposed to carry out the review in line with the timetable specified in Appendix 1 with a view to it being completed and coming into force by October/November 2019.
- 2.5 In the event of an unscheduled election/referendum being called before the completion of the review process, the current Polling Scheme, which forms Appendix 2, will be used.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is requested to:

- 3.1 note the requirements to undertake a review of the Polling Scheme between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020;
- 3.2 approve the timetable relating to the Statutory Review of the Polling Scheme, as outlined in Appendix 1;
- 3.3 approve the draft Polling Scheme forming Appendix 3 and authorise the Head of Legal and Property Services to consult thereon; and

3.4 note that a further report will be presented to the Council at its meeting on 6 June 2019 once the Consultation period has ended.

Gerard Malone
Head of Legal and Property Services

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In terms of the Representation of the People Act 1983, local authorities are required to designate polling places for the purposes of elections and to review those arrangements within the statutory review timescale and are further obliged to keep their arrangements under review.
- 4.2 The Council completed its last statutory review in 2014 and carried out an interim review in 2016 following the implementation of the Local Government boundary changes. The Council's practice has also been to review polling arrangements as each scheduled election approaches. In conducting its reviews, the Council must seek to ensure that:-
- (i) all electors in the constituency have reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in circumstances; and
 - (ii) so far as is reasonably practical, all polling places should be accessible to all voters including those who are disabled and when considering the designation of a polling place the Council must have regard to the needs of persons with disabilities.
- 4.3 The timetable for the review is outlined in Appendix 1 commencing with the publication of the notification of the review and making contact with interested parties, such as Members, Community Councils and organisations representing the disabled.
- 4.4 The Council is committed to ongoing reviews of the Scheme and to exploring suitable options for polling place locations. The Council seeks to minimise any disruption to schools during each election process and this will be looked at continuously.

5.0 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE POLLING SCHEME

- 5.1 The draft Polling Scheme which forms Appendix 3, proposes certain amendments to the current Polling Scheme as follows:-
- (i) Park Farm Community Hall, Oronsay Avenue, Port Glasgow, has been the established polling place for voters in Polling District IG03. However, from late 2019 the premises will no longer be available for use as a polling place. In view of the number of voters within this Polling District and the neighbouring Polling District IG02, the lack of a suitable alternative venue within IG03 and also the proximity of Polling District IG02's polling place (Struthers Memorial Church, Arran Avenue, Port Glasgow), it is feasible and practical to merge IG02 and IG03 to form one Polling District. It is therefore proposed to remove the Polling District line between IG02 and IG03, as detailed in Appendix 4, to form one Polling District, namely IG02, with all voters from the current IG03 Polling District reallocated to Struthers Memorial Church; and
 - (ii) if the above amendment is approved, it is proposed that the Polling District number sequence be realigned to reflect the reduction in Polling Districts as detailed in Appendix 3.
- 5.2 The Council has previously delegated to the Chief Executive the authority to make any such amendments as may from time to time be necessary in the Polling Scheme in order to take account of any building works and/or closures in order to facilitate suitable and feasible polling arrangements.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

The proposed reduction of one polling place within the Polling Scheme will result in an accommodation saving but not staffing or any other material item.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

6.2 Legal

The Council is required to receive this report in terms of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended) and the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013.

6.3 Human Resources

There are no implications.

6.4 Equalities

The Council is required to ensure the provision of suitable premises to facilitate ease of access for all voters throughout Inverclyde and thus to promote participation in local democracy for all its citizens.

6.5 Repopulation

There are no repopulation implications.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive and the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Communities.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL
STATUTORY REVIEW OF POLLING SCHEME
TIMETABLE

The proposed timetable for the Consultation Review is as follows:-

1. Publication on Inverclyde Council website, notices in libraries, letters to interested parties, etc	13 December 2018
2. Representations by interested parties to be received no later than	13 February 2019
3. Inverclyde Council to consider a report on the initial proposals to approve the revised Polling Scheme on	18 April 2019
4. Further consultation on the draft Polling Scheme commencing on	25 April 2019
5. Final date for comments on draft Polling Scheme	24 May 2019
6. Final proposals, having regard to any comments/suggestions received to be considered by the Council on	6 June 2019

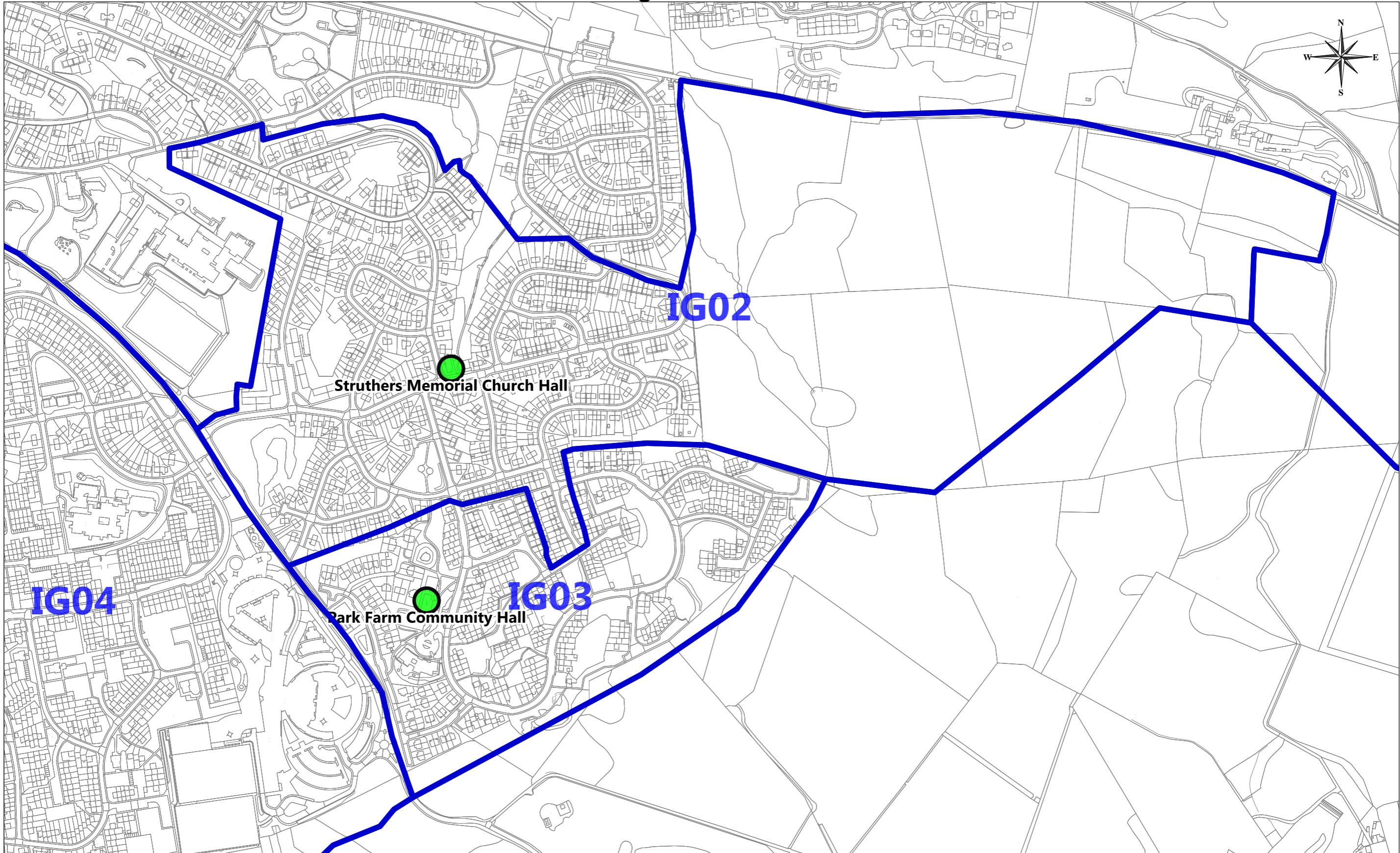
**INVERCLYDE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY
CURRENT POLLING SCHEME**

Polling District	Polling Place
IN01	Bethesda Building, Faith Avenue, Quarriers Village, Bridge of Weir
IN02	St Columba Church Hall, Bridge of Weir Road, Kilmacolm
IG01	Holy Family Church Hall, Parkhill Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG02	Struthers Memorial Church, Arran Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG03	Park Farm Community Hall, Oronsay Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG04	St Mary's Episcopal Church, Bardrainey Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG05	St Francis Church, Auchenbothie Road, Port Glasgow
IG06	Clune Park Resource Centre, Montgomerie Street, Port Glasgow
IG07	Upper Port Glasgow Social Club, Crosshill Road, Port Glasgow
IG08	Port Glasgow Lesser Town Hall, Shore Street, Port Glasgow
IG09	Port Glasgow Bowling Club, Birkmyre Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG10	Gibshill Community Centre, Smillie Street, Greenock
IG11	Auchmountain Halls, Burnhead Street, Greenock
IG12	Craigend Resource Centre, McLeod Street, Greenock
IG13	Crawfurdsburn Community Centre, Carwood Street, Greenock
IG14	Whinhill Primary School, Drumfrochar Road, Greenock
IG15	Prospecthill Christian Fellowship, 8 Prospecthill Street, Greenock
IG16	Wellpark/Mid Kirk Church Hall, Clyde Square, Greenock
IG17	Salvation Army Centre, Regent Street (enter from Roxburgh Street), Greenock
IG18	St John's Episcopal Church Hall, Union Street (enter from Jamaica Street), Greenock
IG19	Ardgowan Club, Ardgowan Square, Greenock
IG20	Finnart Scout Hall, 159 Finnart Street, Greenock
IG21	Lyle Kirk Hall, Bentinck Street, Greenock
IG22	Cardwell Bay Sailing Club, Cove Road, Gourock
IG23	Gamble Halls, 44 Shore Street (enter from Davidson Drive), Gourock
IG24	Kirn Drive Community Centre, Kirn Drive, Gourock
IG25	Gourock Golf Club, Cowal View, Gourock
IG26	Spinnaker Hotel, Albert Road, Gourock
IG27	Royal Gourock Yacht Club, Ashton Road, Gourock
IG28	Upper Larkfield Community Hall, Lothian Road, Greenock
IG29	Aileymill Nursery School, Norfolk Road, Greenock
IG30	Branchton Community Centre, Branchton Road, Greenock
IG31	Inverkip Community Hub, Main Street, Inverkip
IG32	Wemyss Bay Community Centre, Ardgowan Road, Wemyss Bay
IG33	Mount Kirk, 95 Dempster Street, Greenock
IG34	South West Library, Barr's Cottage, Greenock
IG35	Grieve Road Community Centre, Grieve Road, Greenock
IG36	St Joseph's Primary School, Wren Road, Greenock
IG37	St Andrews Primary School, Chester Road, Greenock

**INVERCLYDE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY
PROPOSED DRAFT POLLING SCHEME**

Polling District	Polling Place
IN01	Bethesda Building, Faith Avenue, Quarriers Village, Bridge of Weir
IN02	St Columba Church Hall, Bridge of Weir Road, Kilmacolm
IG01	Holy Family Church Hall, Parkhill Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG02	Struthers Memorial Church, Arran Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG03	St Mary's Episcopal Church, Bardrainey Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG04	St Francis Church, Auchenbothie Road, Port Glasgow
IG05	Clune Park Resource Centre, Montgomerie Street, Port Glasgow
IG06	Upper Port Glasgow Social Club, Crosshill Road, Port Glasgow
IG07	Port Glasgow Lesser Town Hall, Shore Street, Port Glasgow
IG08	Port Glasgow Bowling Club, Birkmyre Avenue, Port Glasgow
IG09	Gibshill Community Centre, Smillie Street, Greenock
IG10	Auchmountain Halls, Burnhead Street, Greenock
IG11	Craigend Resource Centre, McLeod Street, Greenock
IG12	Crawfurdsburn Community Centre, Carwood Street, Greenock
IG13	Whinhill Primary School, Drumfrochar Road, Greenock
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IG18	Ardgowan Club, Ardgowan Square, Greenock
IG19	Finnart Scout Hall, 159 Finnart Street, Greenock
IG20	Lyle Kirk Hall, Bentinck Street, Greenock
IG21	Cardwell Bay Sailing Club, Cove Road, Gourock
IG22	Gamble Halls, 44 Shore Street (enter from Davidson Drive), Gourock
IG23	Kirn Drive Community Centre, Kirn Drive, Gourock
IG24	Gourock Golf Club, Cowal View, Gourock
IG25	Spinnaker Hotel, Albert Road, Gourock
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IG27	Upper Larkfield Community Hall, Lothian Road, Greenock
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IG31	Wemyss Bay Community Centre, Ardgowan Road, Wemyss Bay
IG32	Mount Kirk, 95 Dempster Street, Greenock
IG33	South West Library, Barr's Cottage, Greenock
IG34	Grieve Road Community Centre, Grieve Road, Greenock
IG35	St Joseph's Primary School, Wren Road, Greenock
IG36	St Andrews Primary School, Chester Road, Greenock

Current Polling Districts IG02 & IG03



Inverclyde
council

Environment and Public Protection

Environment, Regeneration & Resources
Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E

Municipal Buildings
Clyde Square
Greenock
PA15 1LY
Tel: 01475 712712
Fax: 01475 712731
scott.allan@inverclyde.gov.uk

Plan Creator: Joe Gray
Date: 06/11/2018
Scale: 1:5000

POLLING_DISTRICTS

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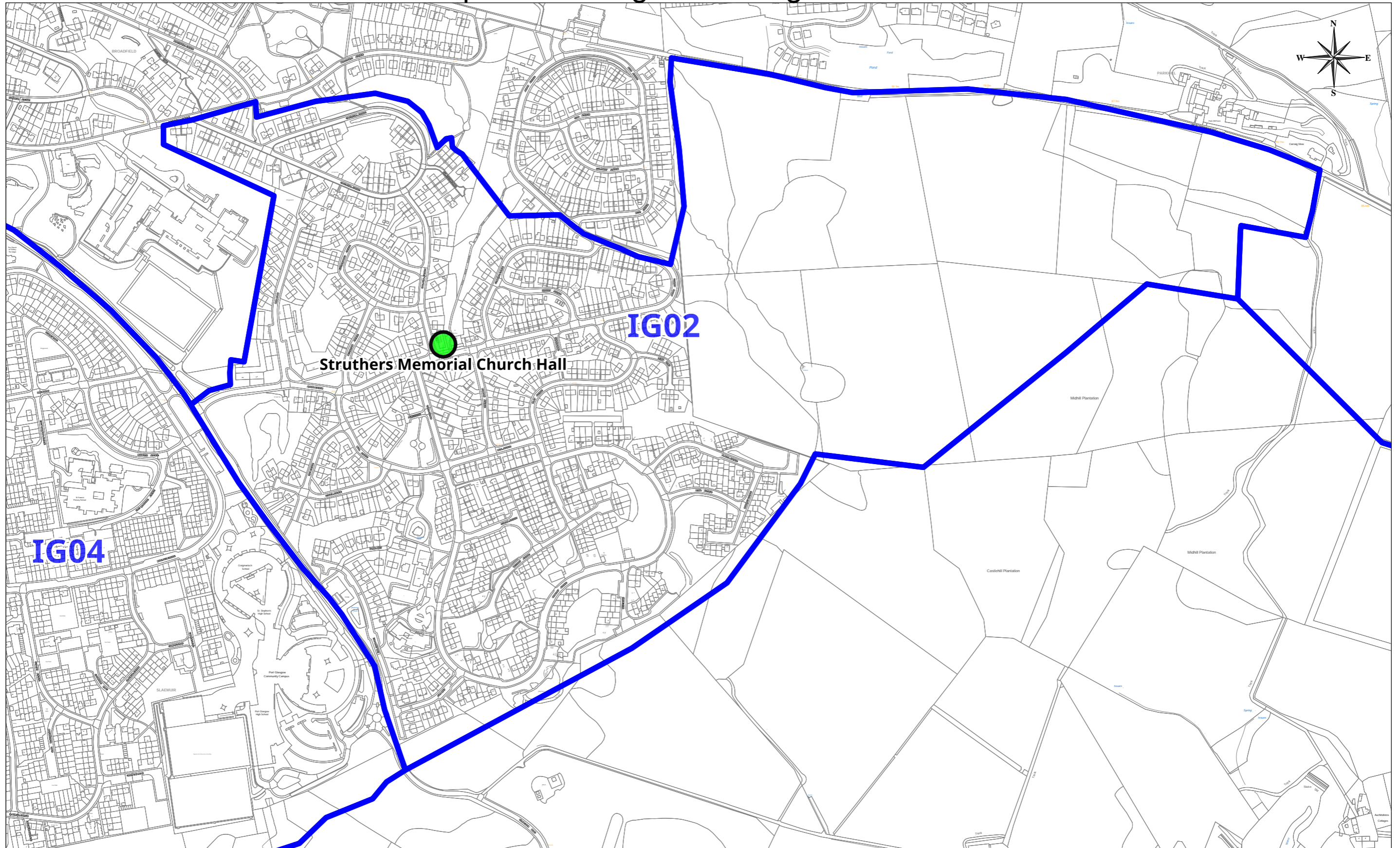
CURRENT POLLING PLACES

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Proposed Change to Polling District IG02



Inverclyde
council


Environment and Public Protection

Environment, Regeneration & Resources
Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E


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Clyde Square
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PA15 1LY
Tel: 01475 712712
Fax: 01475 712731
scott.allan@inverclyde.gov.uk

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Copy Polling Districts Proposal

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Copy Proposal Polling Places

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