

**Report To:** The Inverclyde Council (Special)

**Date:** 28 June 2012

**Report By:** Corporate Director Education,  
Communities & Organisational Development

**Report No:**  
IC/02/12/AH/MP.

**Contact Officer:** Maggie Paterson

**Contact No:** 01475 715450

**Subject:** Implementation of Scheme of Establishment for Community  
Councils in Inverclyde

---

## 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- update Council on the implementation of the new scheme for the establishment of Community Councils in Inverclyde
- endorse decisions made by the Regeneration Committee in respect of the disbursement of the administrative grant for community councils and other matters
- update Council on changes in respect of Community Council Liaison.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 The new Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils in Inverclyde was agreed at a meeting of Inverclyde Council on 14 April 2011. In September 2011, the first elections under the new scheme took place and sufficient nominations were received to establish 7 of the 11 Community Councils. In February 2012 a second call for nominations brought forward sufficient nominations for 2 more Community Councils to be established in Port Glasgow East and Greenock Central.

2.2 In the period September 2011 to January 2012, the Regeneration Committee agreed the recommendations of three reports on Community Councils. Legal Services have advised that these require to be endorsed by Full Council.

2.3 As part of the Council restructure effective from April 2012, responsibility for Community Council Liaison has transferred from Safer & Inclusive Communities to Legal Services. This report updates Council on this development.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Council:

- notes the update on the implementation of the new Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Inverclyde
- endorses decisions made by the Regeneration Committee in respect of the

---

disbursement of the administrative grant for community councils and other matters

- notes the change of responsibilities in respect of Community Council Liaison.

**Albert Henderson**  
**Corporate Director: Education & Communities**

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 On 14 April 2011, following an extensive period of consultation, the new Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Inverclyde was agreed at a meeting of Inverclyde Council. This scheme established 11 community councils for the area. In September 2011, the first elections under the new scheme took place and sufficient nominations were received to establish 7 of the 11 Community Councils.

In February 2012 a second call for nominations brought forward sufficient nominations for 2 more community councils to be established, with late nominations being received to make a fourth viable.

Community Councils have now been established in:

Gourock  
Greenock Central  
Greenock Southwest  
Greenock West and Cardwell Bay  
Inverkip and Wemyss Bay  
Kilmacolm  
Larkfield, Braeside and Branchton  
Port Glasgow East  
Port Glasgow West

3 nominations were received for Greenock East, with a further 3 submitted after the closing deadline. No nominations were received from Holefarm/Cowdenknowes.

- 4.2 In the period September 2011 to January 2012 the Regeneration Committee agreed recommendations which Legal Services have advised require be reviewed and endorsed by Inverclyde Council. These form Annexe 1 (a) to this report.
- 4.3 As part of the Council restructure effective from April 2012, responsibility for Community Council Liaison and the budget for Community Councils has transferred from Safer & Inclusive Communities to Legal Services. This report advises Council of these changes.

## **5.0 PROPOSALS**

- 5.1 Establishment of Greenock East Community Council

Late nominations were received for Greenock East. Legal Services have advised that these cannot be accepted and that a further election is required, which would involve going back by public notice to seek an application from at least 20 electors in that Community Council area that they wish a Community Council to be formed and go through the nomination/election process again.

- 5.2 Holefarm and Cowdenknowes

This is the smallest Community Council area created by the new Scheme of Establishment. The population is estimated at 2351. Officers understand that some local residents would have been willing to come forward as Community Councillors had the boundaries been marginally different. Legal Services have advised that whilst the Council can review the boundaries of the Holefarm/Cowdenknowes Community Council (and those surrounding it), that would constitute a further review and amendment of the Scheme of Establishment with the same public consultation process as previously.

5.3 In terms of the Council's structure, the remit for Community Council Liaison rests with the Legal and Democratic Services section of the Environment, Regeneration and Resources Directorate. The appropriate arrangements are being put in place by Officers to effect the handover of this role.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

Finance: None

Legal: None

Personnel: None

Equalities: None

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

Not applicable.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

## Annexe 1

### Regeneration Committee Decisions

1 September 2011

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Approve proposals for minimum and maximum number of Community Council Members	Minimum number set at 5, Legal Services advise this requires to be raised to 6 for Port Glasgow East, Greenock East and Gourock
Proposals for the resourcing of Community Councils	Agree – no changes

27 October 2011

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Second call for nominations to take place for Port Glasgow East, Greenock Central, Holefarm/ Cowdenknowes	Agree – no changes

19 January 2012

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Approve the proposed guidance on the use of Inverclyde Council's Grant to Community Councils	Agree – no changes