

Community Council Elections 2015

Key facts:

- Elections will be held in all 25 community council areas
- Elections run as per agreed Scheme of Electoral Arrangements
- Delayed by one year from October 2014
- Community Councillors elected in 2015 will only sit for a 3 year term – this will bring elections back into line with Scheme of Establishment
- Term of office for existing Community Councillors expires at midnight Monday 5 October 2015
- Sheona Hunter, Head of Legal & Democratic Services – Returning Officer for CC elections

Election Timetable:

Monday 7 September 2015	Publication of Notice of Election
Not later than 4pm on any weekday after the date of publication of the Notice of Election	Submission of nomination papers to Returning Officer
Not later than 4pm on Monday 28 September 2015	Final date for the submission of nomination papers to the Returning Officer Final date for the submission of candidates personal statements
Not later than 4pm on Monday 5 October 2015	Final date for the withdrawal of nominations
Midnight on Monday 5 October 2015	Existing Community Councillors term of office expires
Friday 9 October 2015	Issue letters to candidates if uncontested confirming their election and publication of Notice of Uncontested Election
Friday 9 October 2015	Publication of Notice of Poll (if contested)
Monday 26 October 2015	Polling commences (if contested) - final dates and times to be confirmed
Monday 2 November 2015	Counting of Votes cast – time to be confirmed

RO responsible for:

- Ensuring the elections are administered effectively
- Publishing all statutory notices e.g. Notice of Election
- Counting of votes cast in a contested poll and declaring results
- Providing on support and guidance to candidates on the election process
- Arranging inaugural meetings of new community councils

RO not responsible for:

- Promoting any candidate for election or the community council they represent

However:

- RO will issue posters advising that elections are taking place to public libraries, ACCESS offices, main council offices and local shops and halls – CC's themselves will also be given posters to circulate to help promote the election
- Social media to promote key dates

Nomination process:

- Nomination packs will be available to download from www.angus.gov.uk/elections_and_voting or can be collected from the Election Office at Angus House
- Packs will also be sent to CC secretaries to hand out to any existing members who wish to stand again
- Closing date for nominations is **4pm on Monday 28 September 2015** – leave time for these to be checked
- Ensure that personal statement is included

After last day for withdrawal of nominations:

- **NO CONTESTED POLL** - If the number of validly nominated candidates is equal to or exceeds half of the total number of vacancies and is less than or equal to the total number of vacancies
- **CONTESTED POLL** – If number of validly nominated candidates exceeds the total number of vacancies
- **CC NOT ESTABLISHED** – If total number of validly nominated candidates is less than half the total number of vacancies

Next steps:

- **NO CONTESED POLL** – successful candidates advised of date/time of inaugural meetings - interim chairperson take the meeting new chairperson is appointed
- **CONTESTED POLL** – candidates will be advised of dates/times of poll and count – inaugural meeting will take place immediately after count

Queries about electoral process:

Elections Manager – Shona Cameron

Elections Assistant – Gillian Bell

Election Office – 01307 476060

Queries about community councils:

Community Engagement Support Officer –

Kevin Ditcham – 01307 476128

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Any questions?