

**REPORT TO:** East Lothian Council

**MEETING DATE:** 14 December 2021

**BY:** Executive Director for Council Resources

**SUBJECT:** Amendment to East Lothian Council's Polling Place Scheme

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To seek Council support to formally amend East Lothian Council's Polling Place Scheme in respect of EL5G polling district.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to approve the permanent amendment to the polling scheme for the East Lothian Constituency for polling district EL5G.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Feedback from voters, poll staff and polling place inspectors indicated accessibility concerns with Gifford Village Hall. This was emphasised in May 2021 when the additional Covid-19 measures were in place. As such, an alternative polling place was sought to serve the electorate in this polling district.
- 3.2 It is proposed that Gifford Bowling Club be used as the permanent polling place. The property is in a central location, has good facilities and voter access.
- 3.3 Local Councillors have been advised in relation to the proposal and none expressed any reservation.

## **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct policy obligations associated with this report.

## **5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy

## **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Financial - None  
6.2 Personnel - None  
6.3 Other - None

## **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 The existing Polling Scheme was approved at Council meeting on 11 December 2018 following the Statutory Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

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