Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021

Media information pack

Scottish Parliamentary Election counts for Fife constituencies:

Friday 7 May 2021

Rothesay House, Glenrothes	Michael Woods Sport & Leisure Centre, Glenrothes
Cowdenbeath, 9am	North East Fife, 9am
Kirkcaldy, 10am	

Saturday 8 May 2021

Rothesay House, Glenrothes	Michael Woods Sport & Leisure Centre, Glenrothes
Mid Fife & Glenrothes, 9am	Dunfermline, 9am
	Mid Scotland & Fife declaration, after receipt of all constituency results

The Returning Officer is Steve Grimmond.

Entry to the count venue will be strictly by accreditation.

DECLARATION/COUNT VENUE: PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Passes

Your media accreditation pass will be sent to the email address you gave. **You must print off your pass** and bring it with you, together with your official media card (e.g. NUJ) or photo ID from your news organisation. If you're working on a freelance basis with a media organisation, please bring a letter of affiliation with either your driving licence or passport.

It is vital that you print off your pass and bring it with you with your photo ID otherwise you will not be allowed in.

Please note that you must always keep your media pass with you. You will need to show it so that you can be re-admitted should you leave the venue.

As you'll appreciate, things are a bit different for these counts because of the pandemic. It's vital that you follow the Covid-19 rules (adhere to physical distancing 2m, wear a face covering / mask when inside the buildings, use the hand sanitiser when entering / exiting the building, etc.) and make sure you adhere to any directions and one-way systems.

Workspace

Michael Woods Sports & Leisure Centre

We've allocated the media space on the balcony, giving you a view over the count floor.

There is space for one TV crew plus two other media outlets and a Fife Council Communications Officer. There is also space for one person to be interviewed. **No more than 10 people should be on the balcony at any time.**

Power sockets will be available, but these will also be limited, so please make sure your laptop/iPad/tablet etc. is fully charged.

No one from the media will have access to the count floor at all. Should you wish to speak to/interview someone on the count floor, please speak to the Communication Officer and they will arrange this for you.

Broadcast media will be able to access Michael Woods Sport and Leisure Centre from 11am on Wednesday 5 May to set up. Please note that you must be finished setting up by 6pm on Thursday 6 May.

Please arrive at Michael Woods no later than 8.30am on the count days.

Rothesay House

We've allocated the media a room on the third floor. There is space for one TV crew plus two other media outlets and a Fife Council Communications Officer. To allow one interview with one person to take place in this room someone will have to leave the room as there can be **no more than 8 people in this room at any time.**

Unfortunately, because of the restrictions, you will NOT have a view of any of the count floors. However, you will be allowed in the space where the declarations will be made. Should you wish to speak to/interview someone on any of the count floors, please speak to the Communication Officer and they will arrange this for you.

Power sockets will be available, but these will also be limited, so please make sure your laptop/iPad/tablet etc. is fully charged.

Broadcast media will be able to arrange access to set up at Rothesay House by emailing Lynne.Lees@fife.gov.uk

Please arrive at Rothesay House by 8.15am or after 10am on the count days.

The media facilities will stay open until at least 1 hour after declaration.

Wi-fi

SSID (wireless network name)	CORPguest
Username	press
Password	Passw0rd

Please note that the wi-fi access may slow down if it gets over loaded, e.g. if people are uploading large files.

Refreshments

There will be no refreshments available at either venue so please bring your own.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES AND TIMINGS

There are a number of key events throughout the counts that might be of interest to the media. We will do our best to help you make the most of these opportunities by giving you as accurate timescales as possible. Unfortunately,

on this occasion, there will be no photograph/filming opportunity for when the first ballot box is opened. However, you will still get:

- **Announcement of voter turnout / percentage of poll.** There will be an announcement by the Returning Officer on voter turnout for each constituency when this information is available. We will **aim** to give you at least 10 minutes warning of these announcements.

- **Declarations**. Declaration times cannot be guaranteed but it is estimated that we'll declare **Cowdenbeath and Glenrothes & Mid Fife** between **4pm-5pm** and **Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, North East Fife** between **5.00pm-6.00pm** and the **Mid Scotland and Fife Regional List** after 6.00pm. We will aim to give you at least 10 minutes warning of these announcements. We cannot give the results to the media before the Returning Officer makes an official announcement. The constituency results will not be available at a council ward level.

- The results for Fife will appear on our Twitter feed as soon as they're announced. They will then be posted on our Facebook feed and made available on our news centre and Election Results pages.

DOS and DON'TS
Please note that you **must not** film or take close-up shots of individual ballot papers.

The count does have some restricted areas where media are not allowed. If you need to speak to / interview someone who is in a restricted area, please speak to one of the council's communications officers and we will arrange this for you.

HELP AT THE COUNTS
Communications officers are available to help and support you.
They are:

- Susie Cairney – Rothesay House
- Gail Stepo – Michael Woods Sports & Leisure Centre

SUPPORT AFTER THE COUNTS

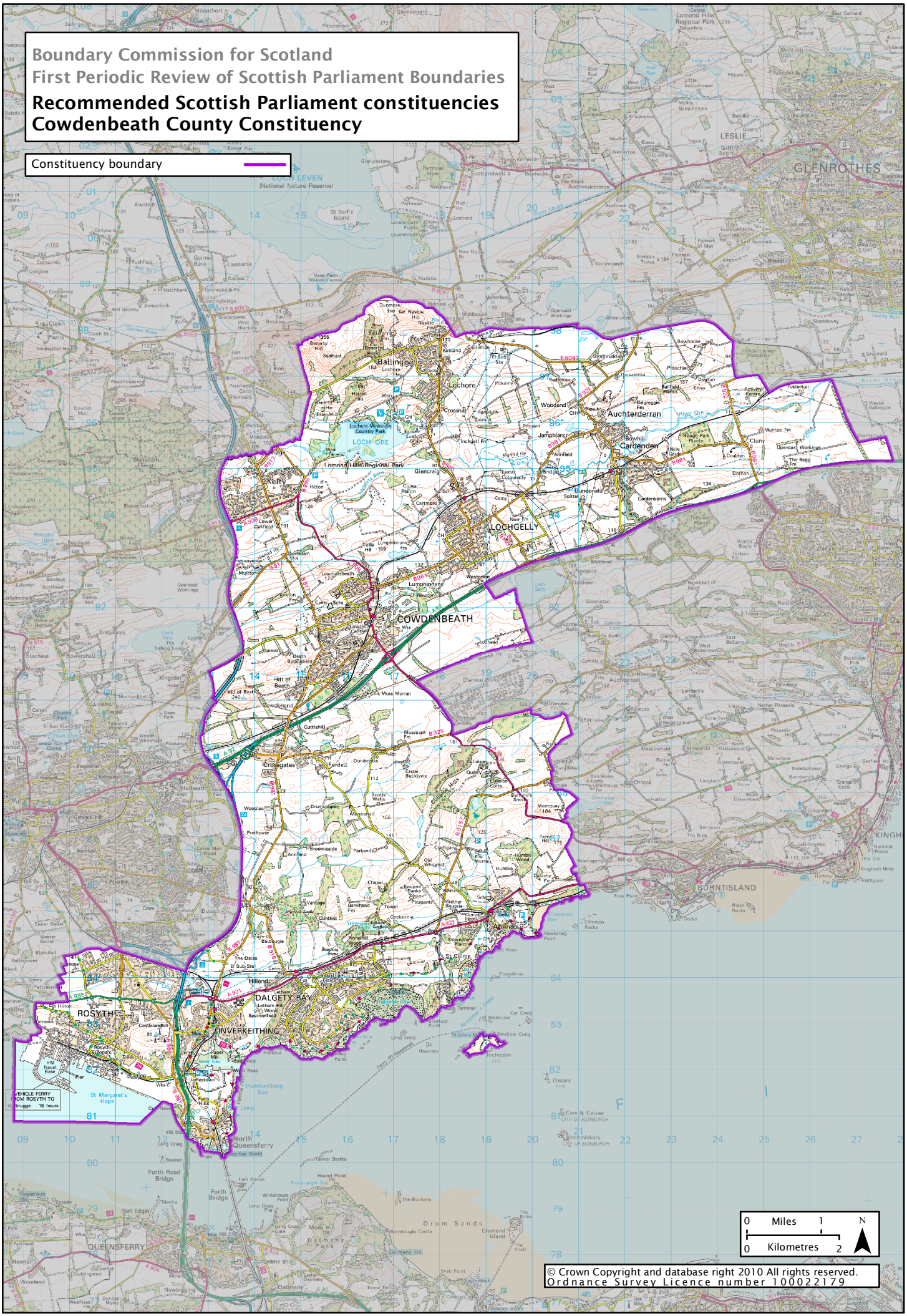
The Communications Office at Fife Council will be staffed from 9am on Friday 7 May and again from 9am on Monday 10 May to help with any follow-up enquiries.

MORE INFORMATION
More information can be found at www.fife.gov.uk/scottishelection2021 or by phoning 01592 583312 or emailing fifecouncil.news@fife.gov.uk

If you have any queries at the counts, please just ask the duty communication officer.

Boundary Commission for Scotland
First Periodic Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries

Recommended Scottish Parliament constituencies
Cowdenbeath County Constituency



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Scottish Parliamentary election – constituency contest
Cowdenbeath Constituency
Statement of Persons Nominated and Notice of poll

A poll will be held on Thursday, 6th May, 2021 between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.		
The following people have been or stand nominated for election as a member of the Scottish Parliament for the above constituency. Those who no longer stand nominated are listed, but will have a comment in the right hand column		
Name of candidate	Description of candidate (if any)	If candidate no longer nominated, reason why
EWING, Annabelle	Scottish National Party (SNP)	
HALL, Mags	Scottish Green Party	
ROWLEY, Alex	Scottish Labour Party	
WATT, Darren	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	
WOOD, Malcolm Alexander	Scottish Liberal Democrats	

Steve Grimmond
Constituency Returning Officer
31st March, 2021

Printed and published by the Constituency Returning Officer, Bankhead Central, Bankhead Park, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6GH

Scottish Parliamentary Election: Thursday 6 May 2021 - Useful Facts and Figures

Fifewide

- The Returning Officer is Steve Grimmond
- The estimated (voting age) population of Fife's five Scottish Parliamentary constituencies as of June 2019 was 308,998 [Source: National Records of Scotland].
- The number of people registered to vote in Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election is 293,231.
- 357 ballot boxes are being used across Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election, plus those required for postal votes.
- There are 12 counting tables and 72 enumerators working at Michael Woods Sport & Leisure Centre 24 counting tables and 144 enumerators working at Rothesay House for the Fife Scottish Parliamentary counts.
- There are 357 polling stations within 192 polling places being used across Fife.
- 69,243 postal vote have been issued across Fife.
- 590 people across Fife have requested a proxy vote.

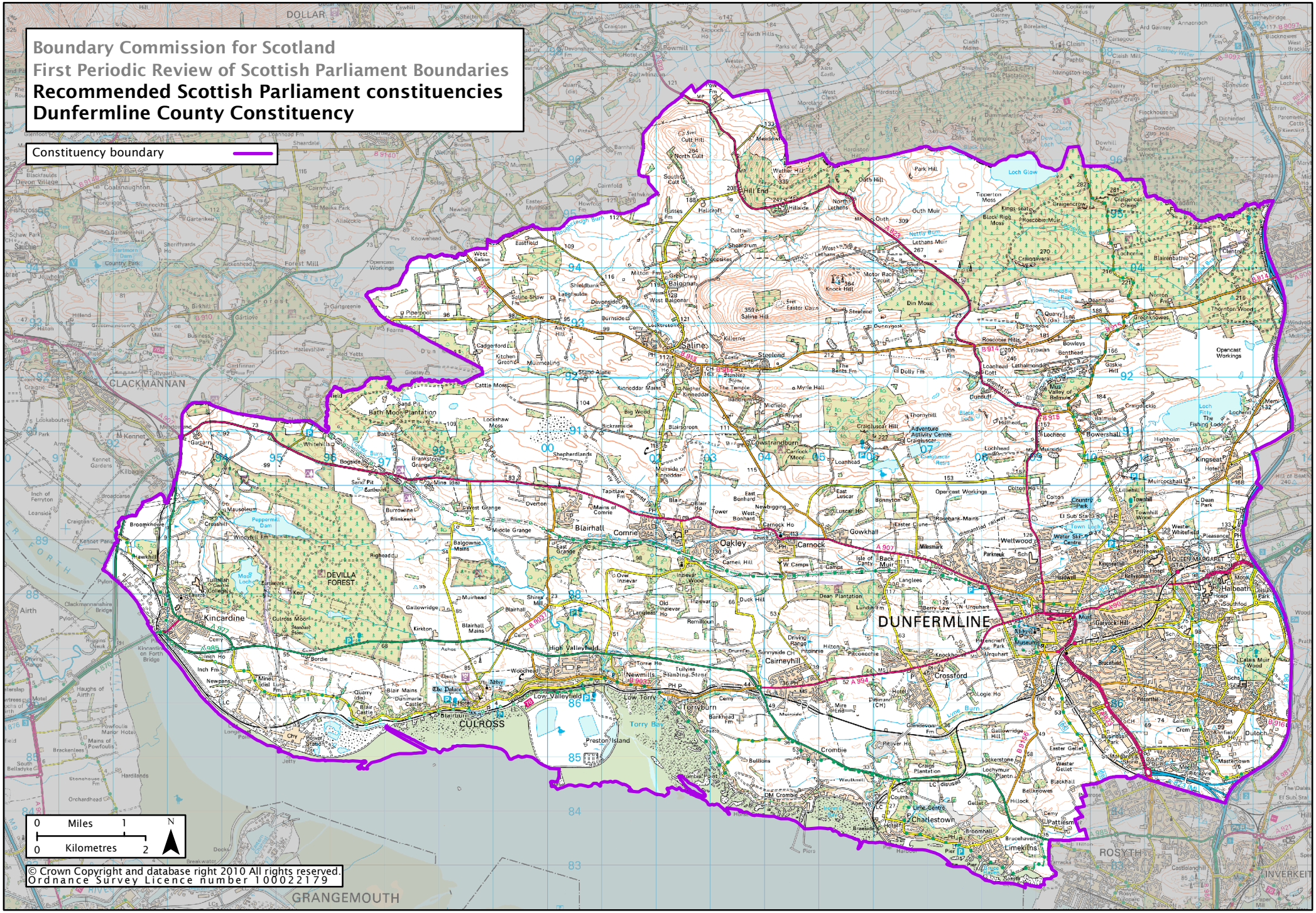
Cowdenbeath

- The estimated (voting age) population of the Cowdenbeath Scottish Parliamentary constituency based on 2018 mid-year estimates was 49,041 [Source: KnowFife].
- The number of people registered to vote in the Cowdenbeath constituency is 56,434.
- 12,635 postal votes have been issued in the Cowdenbeath constituency.
- 72 people in the Cowdenbeath constituency requested a proxy vote.
- 65 polling stations within 28 polling places were used in the Cowdenbeath constituency.
- The results from the 2016 Scottish Parliamentary Election for the Cowdenbeath constituency were:

Candidate	Party	No of votes
Dave Dempsey	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	4,251
Annabelle Ewing	Scottish National Party (SNP)	13,715
Bry Jones	Scottish Liberal Democrats	1,094
Alex Rowley	Scottish Labour Party	10,674

Annabelle Ewing, Scottish National Party (SNP) was declared as the newly elected Member for the Scottish Parliament's Cowdenbeath constituency.

Turnout: 54.72%


Boundary Commission for Scotland
First Periodic Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries
Recommended Scottish Parliament constituencies
Dunfermline County Constituency
Constituency boundary
0 Miles 1
0 Kilometres 2
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DOLLAR
CLACKMANNAN
DUNFERMLINE
CULROSS
GRANGEMOUTH
ROSYTH
Saline
Oakley
Carnock
Cairneyhill
Kincardine
Torryburn
Charlestown
Limekilns
Crossford
Dunfermline
Loch Glow
Torry Bay
Preston Island
DEVILLA FOREST

Scottish Parliamentary election – constituency contest
Dunfermline Constituency
Statement of Persons Nominated and Notice of poll

A poll will be held on Thursday, 6th May, 2021 between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.		
The following people have been or stand nominated for election as a member of the Scottish Parliament for the above constituency. Those who no longer stand nominated are listed, but will have a comment in the right hand column		
Name of candidate	Description of candidate (if any)	If candidate no longer nominated, reason why
BOUBAKER-CALDER, Aude	Scottish Liberal Democrats	
MACDOUGALL, Julie	Scottish Labour Party	
MCCALL, Roz	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	
SOMERVILLE, Shirley-Anne	Scottish National Party (SNP)	

Steve Grimmond
Constituency Returning Officer
31st March, 2021

Printed and published by the Constituency Returning Officer, Bankhead Central, Bankhead Park, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6GH

Scottish Parliamentary Election: Thursday 6 May 2021 - Useful Facts and Figures

Fifewide

- The Returning Officer is Steve Grimmond
- The estimated (voting age) population of Fife's five Scottish Parliamentary constituencies as of June 2019 was 308,998 [Source: National Records of Scotland].
- The number of people registered to vote in Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election is 293,231.
- 357 ballot boxes are being used across Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election, plus those required for postal votes.
- There are 12 counting tables and 72 enumerators working at Michael Woods Sport & Leisure Centre 24 counting tables and 144 enumerators working at Rothesay House for the Fife Scottish Parliamentary counts.
- There are 357 polling stations within 192 polling places being used across Fife.
- 69,243 postal vote have been issued across Fife.
- 590 people across Fife have requested a proxy vote.

Dunfermline

- The estimated (voting age) population of the Dunfermline Scottish Parliamentary constituency based on 2018 mid-year estimates was 62,526 [Source: KnowFife]
- The number of people registered to vote in the Dunfermline constituency 62,330.
- 15,110 postal votes have been issued in the Dunfermline constituency.
- 109 people in the Dunfermline constituency requested a proxy vote.
- 76 polling stations within 38 polling places were used in the Dunfermline constituency.
- The results from the 2016 Scottish Parliamentary Election for the Dunfermline constituency were:

Candidate	Party	No of votes
James Calder	Scottish Liberal Democrats	3,156
Cara Hilton	Scottish Labour Party	9,699
James Reekie	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	5,797
Shirley-Anne Somerville	Scottish National Party (SNP)	14,257

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Scottish National Party (SNP), was declared as the newly elected Member of the Scottish Parliament's Dunfermline constituency.

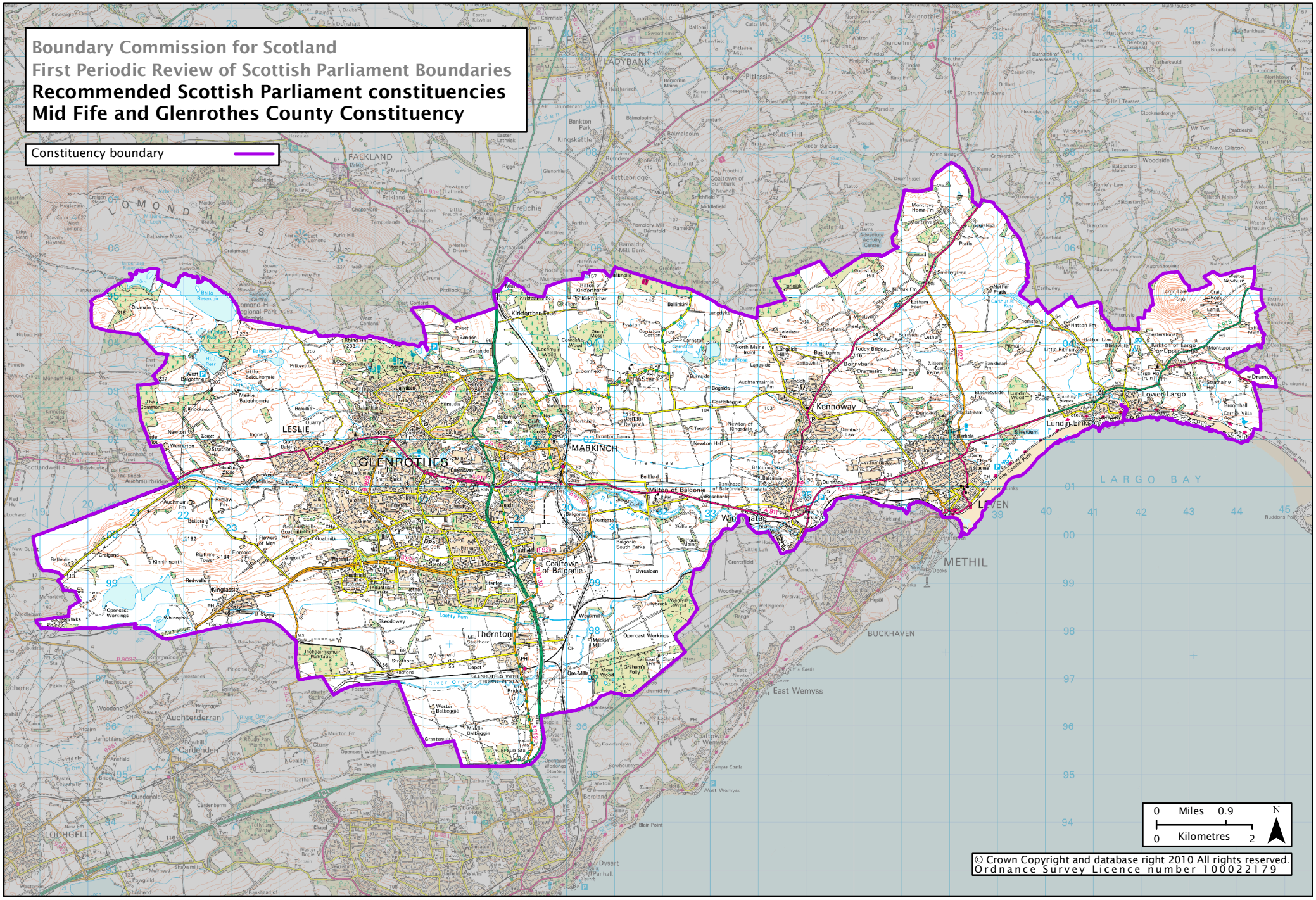
Turnout: 57.19%

Boundary Commission for Scotland

First Periodic Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries

Recommended Scottish Parliament constituencies
Mid Fife and Glenrothes County Constituency

Constituency boundary



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Scottish Parliamentary election – constituency contest
Mid Fife and Glenrothes Constituency
Statement of Persons Nominated and Notice of poll

A poll will be held on Thursday, 6th May, 2021 between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.		
The following people have been or stand nominated for election as a member of the Scottish Parliament for the above constituency. Those who no longer stand nominated are listed, but will have a comment in the right hand column		
Name of candidate	Description of candidate (if any)	If candidate no longer nominated, reason why
CRAIK, Altany Steel Andrew	Scottish Labour Party	
GILRUTH, Jenny	Scottish National Party (SNP)	
LISTON, Jane Ann	Scottish Liberal Democrats	
MACPHEE, David	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	
SAUNDERS, Steve	Scottish Family Party	

Steve Grimmond
Constituency Returning Officer
31st March, 2021

Printed and published by the Constituency Returning Officer, Bankhead Central, Bankhead Park, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6GH

Scottish Parliamentary Election: Thursday 6 May 2021 - Useful Facts and Figures

Fifewide

- The Returning Officer is Steve Grimmond
- The estimated (voting age) population of Fife's five Scottish Parliamentary constituencies as of June 2019 was 308,998 [Source: National Records of Scotland].
- The number of people registered to vote in Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election is 293,231.
- 357 ballot boxes are being used across Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election, plus those required for postal votes.
- There are 12 counting tables and 72 enumerators working at Michael Woods Sport & Leisure Centre 24 counting tables and 144 enumerators working at Rothesay House for the Fife Scottish Parliamentary counts.
- There are 357 polling stations within 192 polling places being used across Fife.
- 69,243 postal vote have been issued across Fife.
- 590 people across Fife have requested a proxy vote.

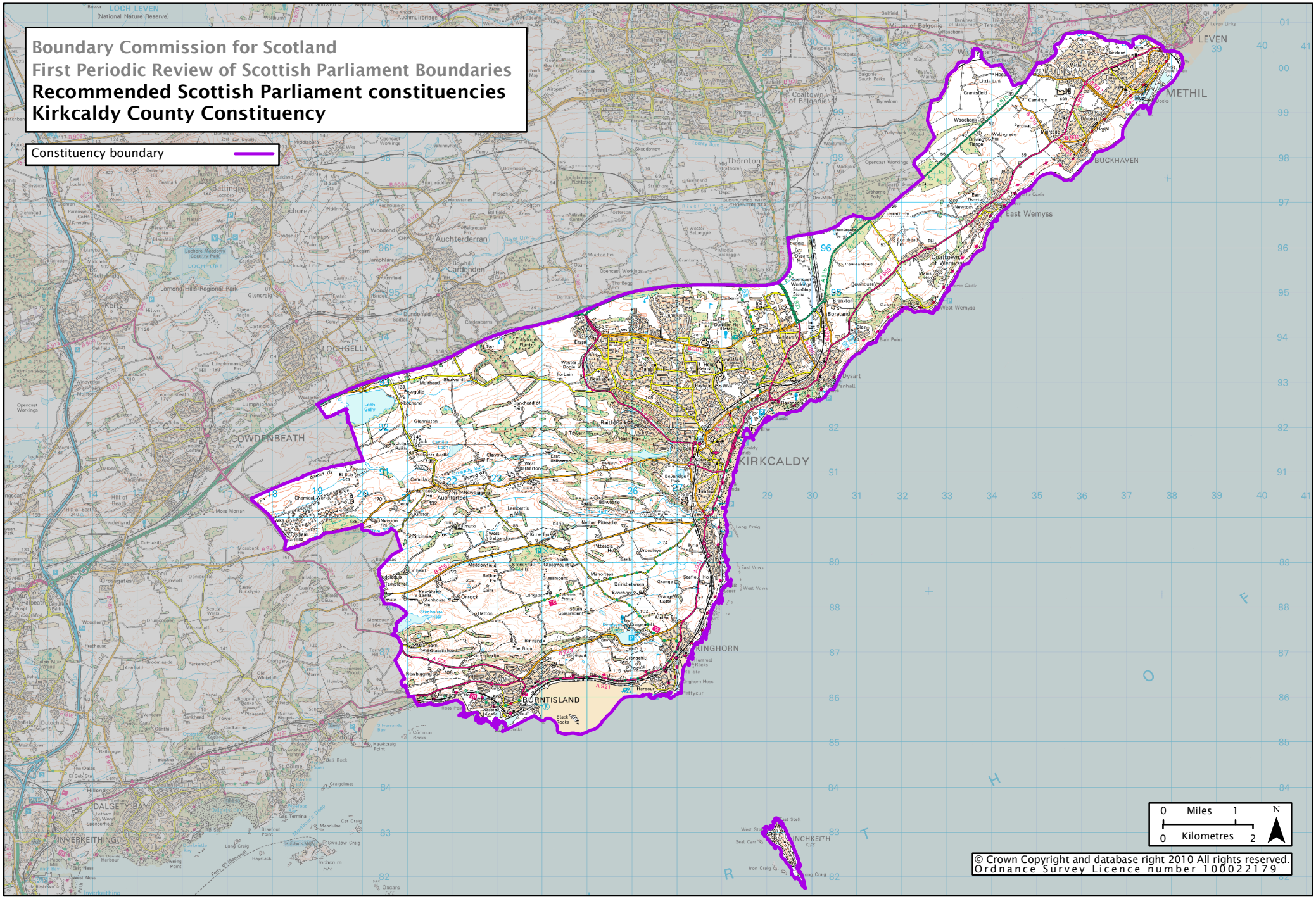
Mid Fife & Glenrothes

- The estimated (voting age) population of the Mid Fife & Glenrothes Scottish Parliamentary constituency based on 2018 mid-year estimates was 56,205. [Source: KnowFife].
- The number of people registered to vote in the Mid Fife & Glenrothes constituency for the Scottish Parliamentary Election is 54,658.
- 12,323 postal votes have been issued in the Mid Fife & Glenrothes constituency.
- 88 people in the Mid Fife & Glenrothes constituency requested a proxy vote.
- 64 polling stations within 35 polling places were used in the Mid Fife & Glenrothes constituency.
- The results from the 2016 Scottish Parliamentary Election for the Mid Fife & Glenrothes constituency were:

Candidate	Party	No of votes
Jenny Gilruth	Scottish National Party (SNP)	15,555
Jane Ann Liston	Scottish Liberal Democrats	1,286
Kay Morrison	Scottish Labour Party	7,279
Alex Stewart Clark	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	4,427

Jenny Gilruth, Scottish National Party (SNP) was declared as the newly elected Member for the Scottish Parliament's Mid Fife & Glenrothes constituency.

Turnout: 53.76%



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Scottish Parliamentary election – constituency contest
Kirkcaldy Constituency
Statement of Persons Nominated and Notice of poll

A poll will be held on Thursday, 6th May, 2021 between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.		
The following people have been or stand nominated for election as a member of the Scottish Parliament for the above constituency. Those who no longer stand nominated are listed, but will have a comment in the right hand column		
Name of candidate	Description of candidate (if any)	If candidate no longer nominated, reason why
BAKER, Claire	Scottish Labour Party and Scottish Co-operative Party	
BEAL, Alan Christopher	Scottish Liberal Democrats	
LESLIE, Kathleen	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	
PAUL, Calum	Scottish Libertarian Party	
TORRANCE, David	Scottish National Party (SNP)	

Steve Grimmond
Constituency Returning Officer
31st March, 2021

Printed and published by the Constituency Returning Officer, Bankhead Central, Bankhead Park, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6GH

Scottish Parliamentary Election: Thursday 6 May 2021 - Useful Facts and Figures

Fifewide

- The Returning Officer is Steve Grimmond
- The estimated (voting age) population of Fife's five Scottish Parliamentary constituencies as of June 2019 was 308,998 [Source: National Records of Scotland].
- The number of people registered to vote in Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election is 293,231.
- 357 ballot boxes are being used across Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election, plus those required for postal votes.
- There are 12 counting tables and 72 enumerators working at Michael Woods Sport & Leisure Centre 24 counting tables and 144 enumerators working at Rothesay House for the Fife Scottish Parliamentary counts.
- There are 357 polling stations within 192 polling places being used across Fife.
- 69,243 postal vote have been issued across Fife.
- 590 people across Fife have requested a proxy vote.

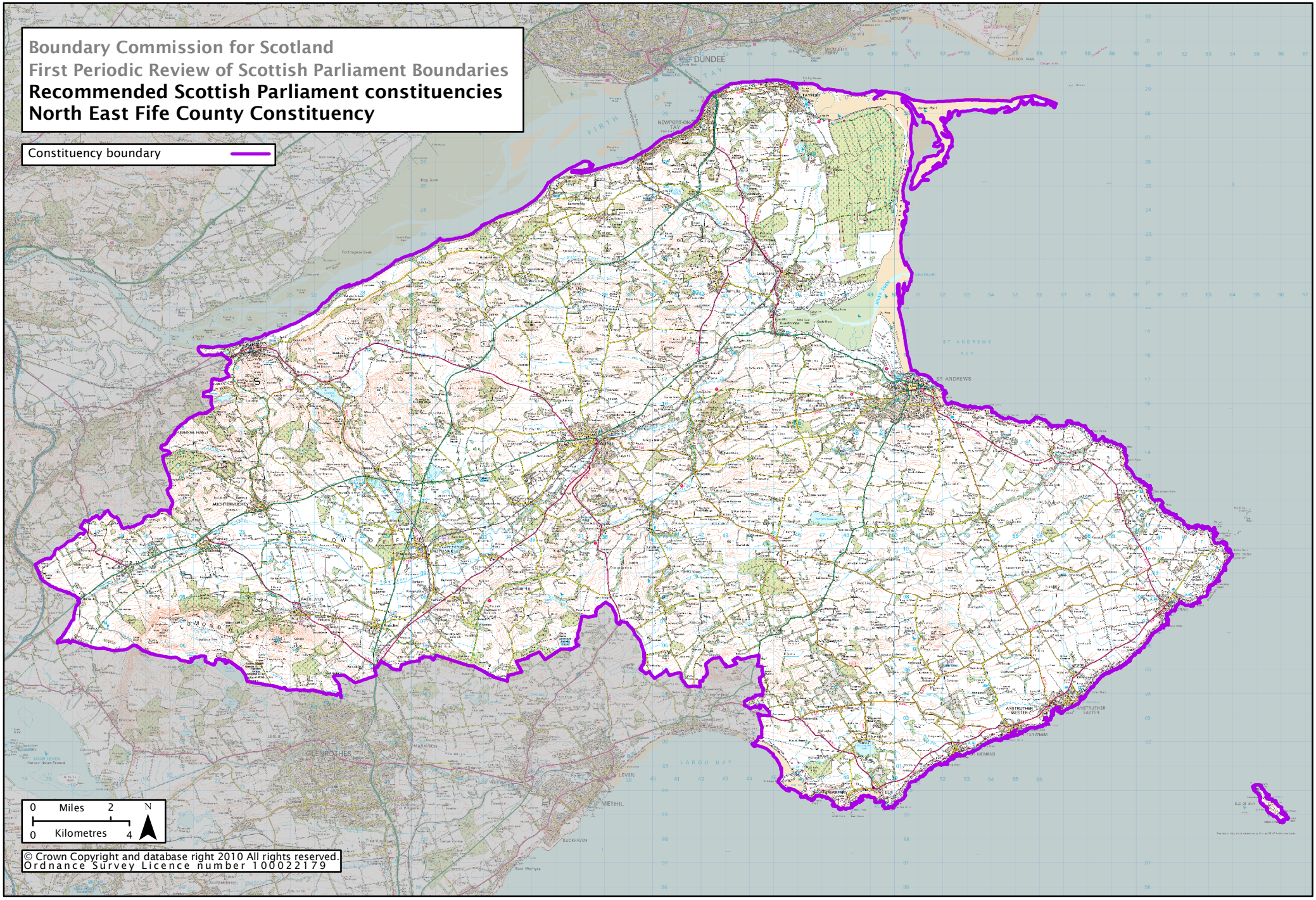
Kirkcaldy

- The estimated (voting age) population of the Kirkcaldy Scottish Parliamentary constituency based on 2018 mid-year estimates was 64,159 [Source: KnowFife]
- The number of people registered to vote in the Kirkcaldy constituency is 61,124.
- 14,519 postal votes have been issued in the Kirkcaldy constituency.
- 77 people in the Kirkcaldy constituency requested a proxy vote.
- 71 polling stations within 39 polling places were used in the Kirkcaldy constituency.
- The results from the 2016 Scottish Parliamentary Election for the Kirkcaldy constituency were:

Candidate	Party	No of votes
Claire Baker	Scottish Labour Party	8,963
Lauren Jones	Scottish Liberal Democrats	1,219
Martin Laidlaw	Scottish Conservative and Unionist	4,568
David Torrance	Scottish National Party (SNP)	16,358

David Torrance, Scottish National Party (SNP), was declared as the newly elected Member of the Scottish Parliament's Dunfermline constituency.

Turnout: 52.52%


Boundary Commission for Scotland
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Recommended Scottish Parliament constituencies
North East Fife County Constituency
Constituency boundary
DUNDEE
ST ANDREWS
0 Miles 2
0 Kilometres 4
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Scottish Parliamentary election – constituency contest
North East Fife Constituency
Statement of Persons Nominated and Notice of poll

A poll will be held on Thursday, 6th May, 2021 between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.		
The following people have been or stand nominated for election as a member of the Scottish Parliament for the above constituency. Those who no longer stand nominated are listed, but will have a comment in the right hand column		
Name of candidate	Description of candidate (if any)	If candidate no longer nominated, reason why
FLEMING, Rhuaraidh	Scottish National Party (SNP)	
HAYNES, Wendy Helena	Scottish Labour Party	
METCALFE, Rhona	Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	
RENNIE, Willie	Scottish Liberal Democrats	

Steve Grimmond
Constituency Returning Officer
31st March, 2021

Printed and published by the Constituency Returning Officer, Bankhead Central, Bankhead Park, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6GH

Scottish Parliamentary Election: Thursday 6 May 2021 - Useful Facts and Figures

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- The number of people registered to vote in Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election is 293,231.
- 357 ballot boxes are being used across Fife for the Scottish Parliamentary Election, plus those required for postal votes.
- There are 12 counting tables and 72 enumerators working at Michael Woods Sport & Leisure Centre 24 counting tables and 144 enumerators working at Rothesay House for the Fife Scottish Parliamentary counts.
- There are 357 polling stations within 192 polling places being used across Fife.
- 69,243 postal vote have been issued across Fife.
- 590 people across Fife have requested a proxy vote.

North East Fife

- The estimated (voting age) population of the North East Fife Scottish Parliamentary constituency based on 2018 mid-year estimates was 75,505. [Source: KnowFife].
- The number of people registered to vote in the North East Fife constituency for the Scottish Parliamentary Election is 58,865.
- 14,656 postal votes have been issued in the North East Fife constituency.
- 244 people in the North East Fife constituency requested a proxy vote.
- 81 polling stations within 48 polling places were used in the North East Fife constituency.
- The results from the 2016 Scottish Parliamentary Election for the North East Fife constituency were:

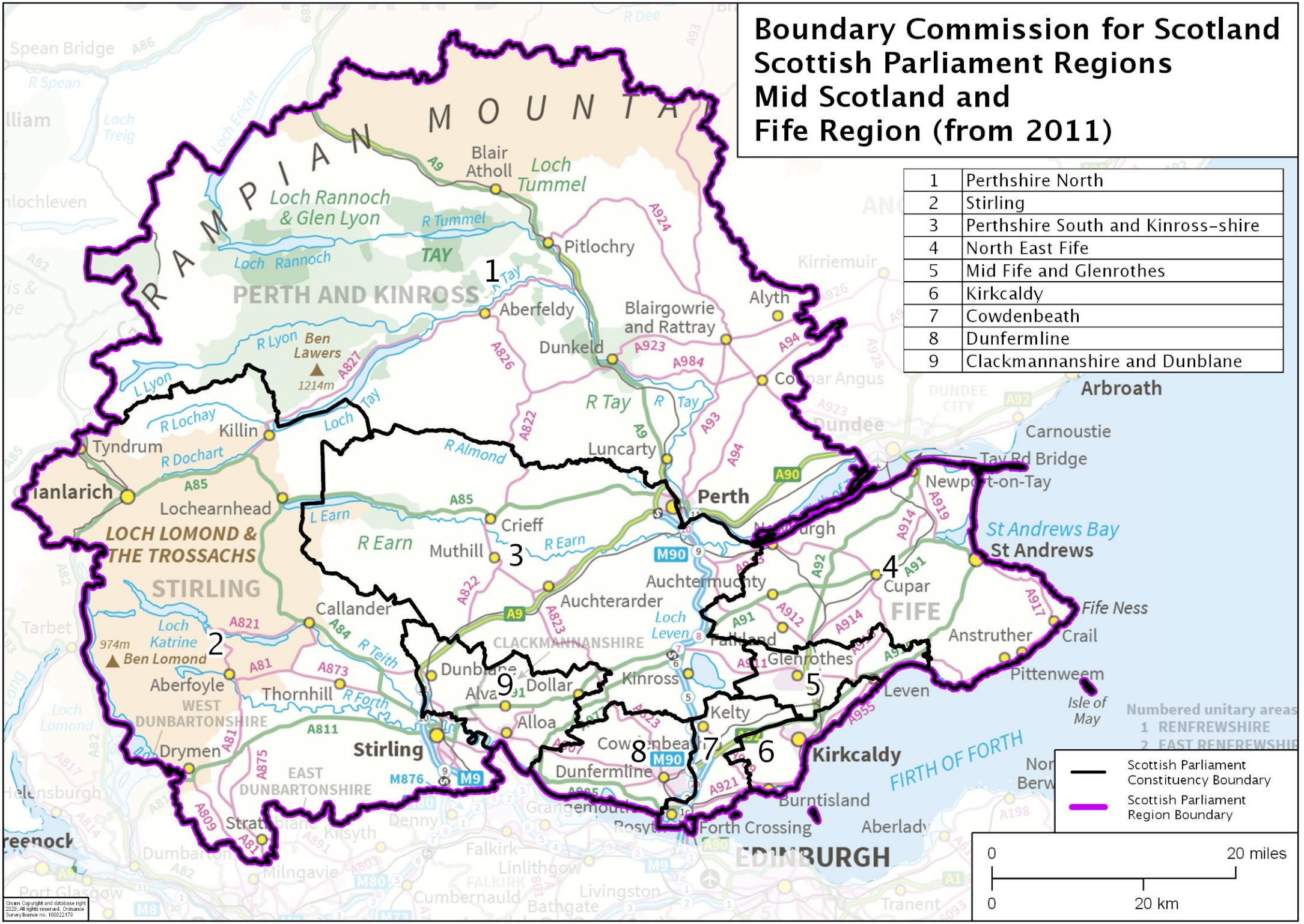
Candidate	Party	No of votes
Huw Bell	Scottish Conservatives	5,646
Roderick Campbell	Scottish National Party (SNP)	11,463
Rosalind Erica Garton	Scottish Labour Pary	2,026
Willie Rennie	Scottish Liberal Democrats	14,928

Willie Rennie, Scottish Liberal Democrats, declared as the newly elected Member of the Scottish Parliament for the North East Fife constituency.

Turnout: 63.21%

Boundary Commission for Scotland
Scottish Parliament Regions
Mid Scotland and
Fife Region (from 2011)

1	Perthshire North
2	Stirling
3	Perthshire South and Kinross-shire
4	North East Fife
5	Mid Fife and Glenrothes
6	Kirkcaldy
7	Cowdenbeath
8	Dunfermline
9	Clackmannanshire and Dunblane



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Scottish Parliamentary election – regional contest
Mid Scotland and Fife Region
Statement of persons and parties nominated and Notice of poll

A poll will be held on Thursday, 6th May, 2021 between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.

The following parties and people have been or stand nominated for election as a member of the Scottish Parliament for the above region. Those who no longer stand nominated are listed, but will have a comment in the right hand column.

Details of registered parties and party list candidates

Name of party	Description of party (if any)	Names of candidates on party list, in order to be elected	Details of any party or candidate no longer nominated, with reason why
ABOLISH THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT PARTY	ABOLISH SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT – SAVE £100,000,000 YEARLY	MANN Ian Haxton DUFF John Balfour	
ALBA PARTY		COMRIE Eva HANVEY Neale EADIE James REILLY Stephanie	
ALL FOR UNITY	ALL 4 UNITY – NO TO SEPARATISM	HOLT Linda KHAN Imam Manzoor HENDERSON Brian STEWART Iain GLEN James DAWSON Graham SAINT Michael	
FREEDOM ALLIANCE – INTEGRITY, SOCIETY, ECONOMY	FREEDOM ALLIANCE – SCOTLAND'S OPPOSITION TO LOCKDOWN	BRACKENRIDGE Lisa SINCLAIR Eren Iona CAIRNS Stuart Alan ELLIOTT Kathleen Ann	

INDEPENDENCE FOR SCOTLAND PARTY		BENTLEY-STEED Andrew Ewan MACKIE Roy William	Withdrawal of all candidates included on the party's list
REFORM UK	REFORM UK – CHANGING POLITICS FOR GOOD	MORTON Kenneth MCCANN Victoria INGLIS George Grant Gordon Otto BLACK Alexander William ADDISON Guy Francis MORTON Karen Marie	
SCOTTISH CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST PARTY		FRASER Murdo SMITH Liz LOCKHART Dean STEWART Alexander MCCALL Roz FORBES Angus METCALFE Rhona WATT Darren BENNY Moira LESLIE Kathleen MACPHEE David	
SCOTTISH FAMILY PARTY	SCOTTISH FAMILY PARTY – PROMOTING TRADITIONAL VALUES	MARSHALL, Donald James SAUNDERS, Stephen SAUNDERS, Davina Graham ALEXANDER, Anil CARRATT, George Thomas MAIR, Linda Susan LYNCH, Paul	
SCOTTISH GREEN PARTY	SCOTTISH GREENS	RUSKELL Mark HALL Mags ROBERTSON Marion MCOWAN Fiona Margaret RUTHERFORD Scott John Colin VAN LEEUWEN Jeroen MACLACHLAN Elspeth Christine VALLOT Paul SMITH Amy MCCUTCHEON Craig	

SCOTTISH LABOUR PARTY		BAKER, Claire ROWLEY, Alex MACDOUGALL, Julie MILLER, Craig KANE, Chris SMART, Ryan DILLON, Ewan	
SCOTTISH LIBERAL DEMOCRATS	SCOTTISH LIBERAL DEMOCRATS – PUT RECOVERY FIRST	RENNIE Willie BARRETT Peter BOUBAKER-CALDER Aude BROWN Julia LISTON Jane Ann REHMAN Fayzan MIR Aisha	
SCOTTISH LIBERTARIAN PARTY	SCOTTISH LIBERTARIAN PARTY	PAUL Calum MORTON George Charles	
SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY (SNP)	NICOLA STURGEON FOR SNP FIRST MINISTER	HOGGAN-RADU, Stefan SWINNEY, John BROWN, Keith EWING, Annabelle FAIRLIE, Jim TORRANCE, David CUNNINGHAM Ross SARWAR, Fiona HENDERSON, Moraig ROBB, Lee HUNTER, Rosemary	
SCOTTISH RENEW		HENDERSON Bruce DIESING Stefan	
UK INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UKIP)	UKIP – GET RID OF HOLYROOD	DAVIS Lynda WATTERS Douglas CORMACK George MCNALLY Edward	

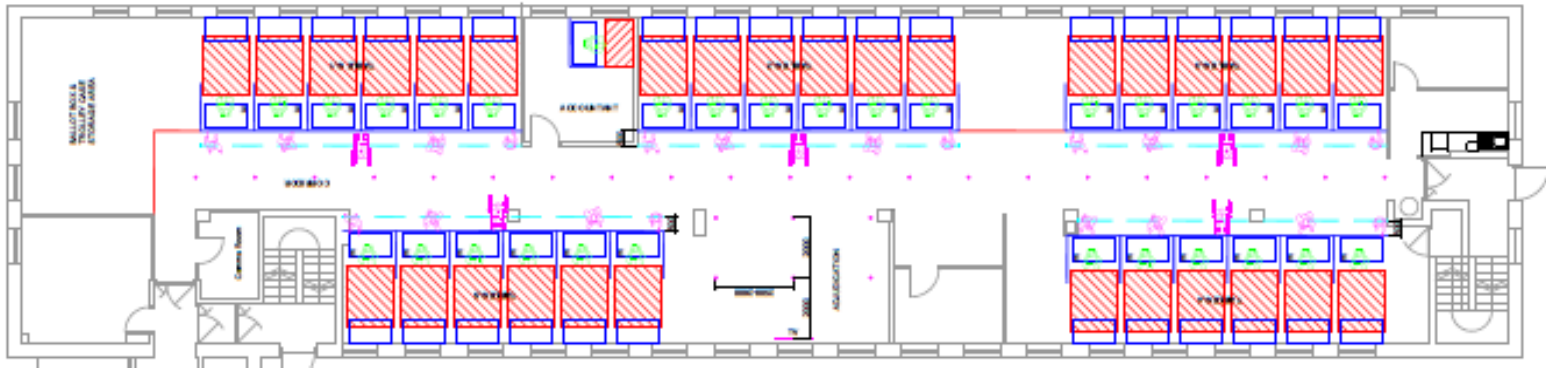
Details of individual regional candidates		
Name of individual regional candidate	Description of individual regional candidate (if any)	If individual regional candidate no longer nominated, reason why
MERCY MUGURE KAMANJA		
MARTIN JAMES KEATINGS	INDEPENDENT	

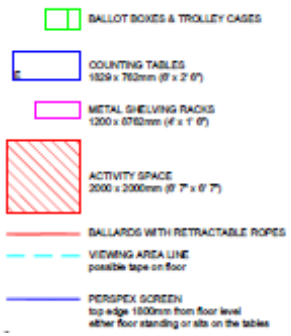
Note that this Election is being taken together with the Poll for the Stirling Council Ward 2 Forth and Endrick By-Election. The Poll for the Scottish Parliament Elections for the Stirling Constituency that is covered by Polling Stations 20 to 34 will therefore be shared by all 3 elections.

Steve Grimmond
Regional Returning Officer
31st March, 2021.

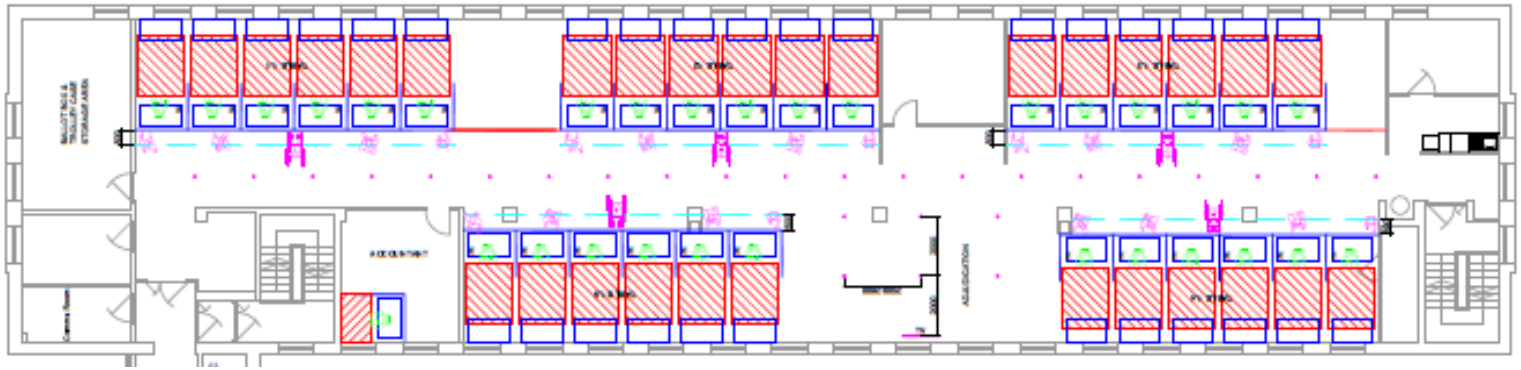
Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021
Count Layout
MWLC Sports Hall
NEF Constituency – Friday 7 May 2021
Dunfermline Constituency – Saturday 8 May 2021

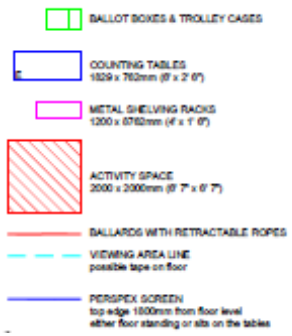
Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021
Count Layout
Rothesay House – Ground Floor
Kirkcaldy Constituency – Friday 7 May 2021



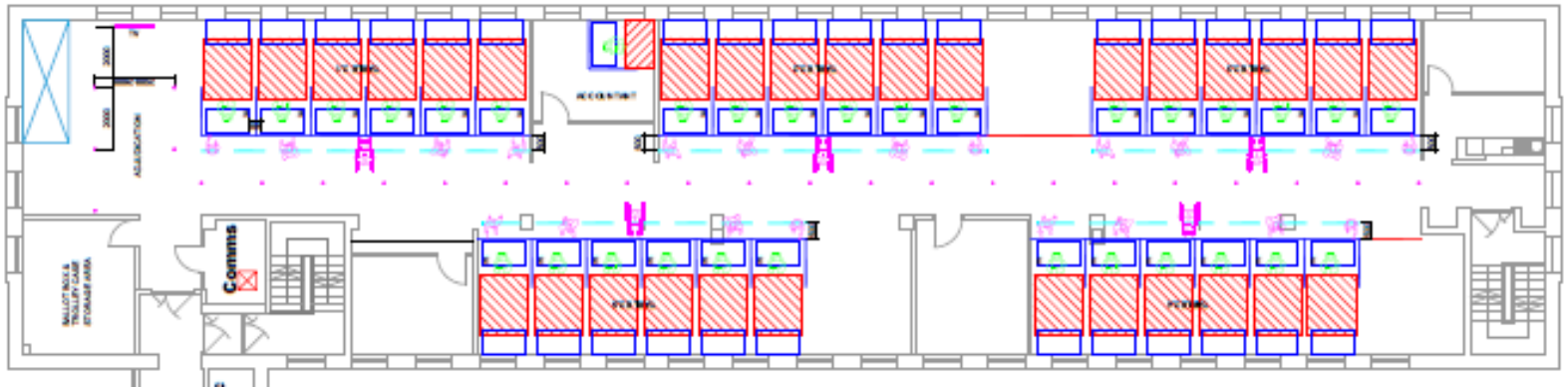


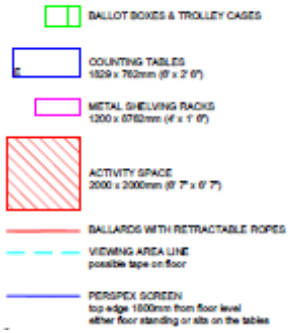
Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021
Count Layout
Rothesay House – First Floor
Cowdenbeath Constituency – Friday 7 May 2021
Mid Fife & Glenrothes Constituency – Saturday 8 May 2021



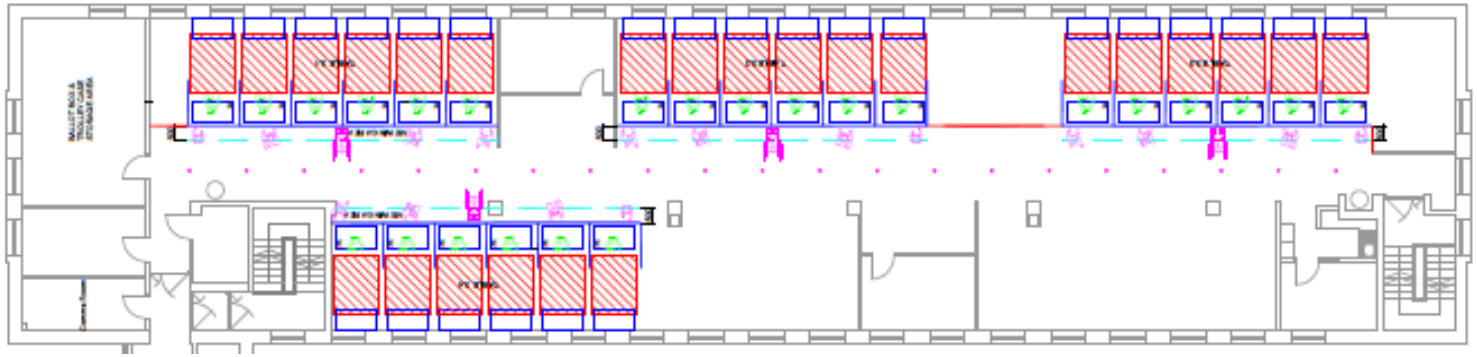


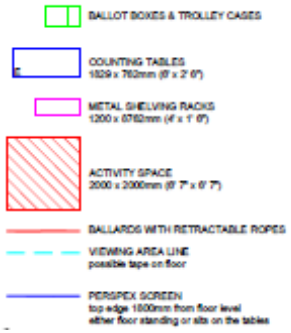
Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021
Count Layout
Rothesay House – Second Floor
Kirkcaldy Regional List – Friday 7 May 2021
Mid Fife & Glenrothes Regional List – Saturday 8 May 2021



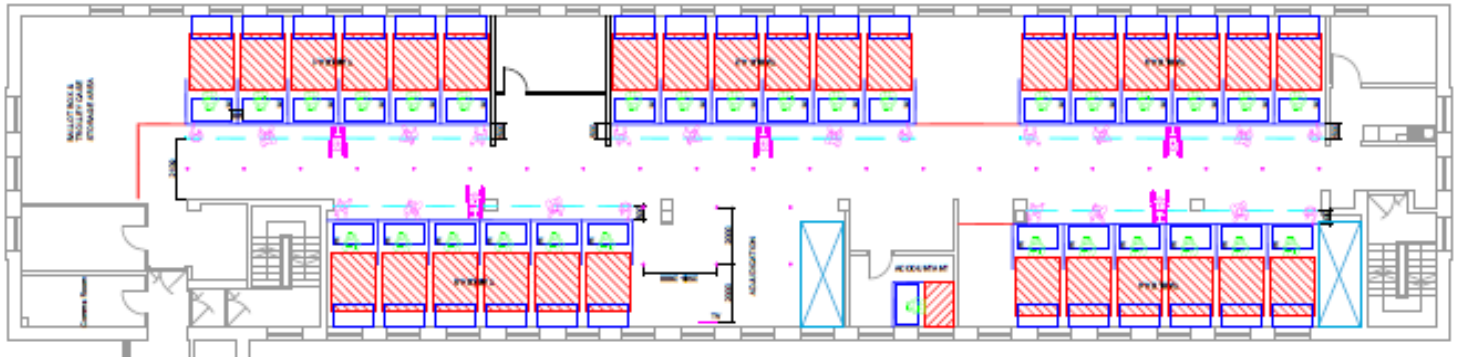


Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021
Count Layout
Rothesay House – Third Floor
Cowdenbeath/Kirkcaldy Regional List – Friday 7 May 2021
Mid Fife & Glenrothes Regional List – Saturday 8 May 2021





Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021
Count Layout
Rothesay House – Fourth Floor
Cowdenbeath Regional List – Friday 7 May 2021



SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION COUNT

(All Constituencies)

FRIDAY, 7th MAY, and SATURDAY, 8th MAY 2021

GUIDANCE NOTES ON THE VERIFICATION AND COUNTING OF VOTES

General

1. All enumerating staff should arrive at the Count Centre by the time notified in your appointment letter on the day of the Count, and will be given a short briefing by the Senior Enumerators on the count procedure prior to commencement of the Count.

2. Small bags will be allowed onto the Count floor and should be placed under your table. Bottled water will be provided for enumerating staff in the Count hall, however, water bottles are **not allowed** on the table.

3. A packed lunch "Grab Bag" (sandwiches, cold drink etc.) will be provided at break time. Please note there will be **no** breakout area available for staff due to COVID restrictions, however you are welcome to sit at your desk or take food to your car during the break.

4. The layout of the Count hall is as shown in Appendix A. Tables will be numbered, and each table will consist of a Senior Enumerator and five Enumerators. Seats will be pre-assigned, and you will be advised of your seat on arrival. A Mini-Count Supervisor and Count Assistants will also be allocated to each Constituency/Regional List Count.

5. Safety is our priority and all individual count tables will have Perspex screens in front and to the side of each individual table. Enumerators are not required to wear a facemask whilst seated at their table but they must put a facemask on if they move from their seat.

6. Tables will be designated as either a constituency or regional list table and will only count papers for that part of the Count.

7. The first stage of the Count process (the verification) will commence at 9.00 a.m./10.00 a.m. (as specified in your appointment letter) prompt.

8. During the verification, all ballot papers must be kept **FACE UP.**

9. All staff must show complete neutrality - this is very important. You must observe the requirement of secrecy, details of which are enclosed in your letter of appointment.

10. Counting Agents are appointed to oversee the proceedings. They must not interfere with your duties, however they are allowed to inspect any ballot paper they may wish to see but not the number on the back. They are not allowed to touch the ballot papers.

11. All stationery for the Count will be contained in a pouch and will be placed on the back table. The stationery, including ballot papers, will be coloured **Constituency (coloured lilac)** and **Regional List (coloured peach)** to easily identify papers.

12. Upon arrival at tables Enumerators will find that ballot boxes will have been allocated to them. These should not be opened until told to do so, by your Senior Enumerator.

Procedure for Count

Stage A - Verification

13. **Verification of Postal Votes Ballot Papers**

The first papers to be verified will be the Constituency and Regional List postal ballot papers which will already have been sorted into 'odd' bundles. These bundles require to be checked and re-counted.

Senior Enumerators will instruct Enumerators to open their first postal ballot box – snips to break the seals will be on your table. The empty ballot box needs to be shown to any Counting Agents present. The Ballot Box Number from the pouch on the box should be displayed at the right-hand side of the desk facing towards the Counting Agents, so they can clearly see which ballot box is being counted. Enumerators will count each bundle in turn and verify that the number on the card corresponds to the total in the batch. They will then add up the total of the bundles (calculators are provided if required) and write it on Form 1 - Postal Votes and sign it. This should then be placed in the "Senior Enumerator" tray on the Senior's back table.

The Enumerator will then place papers from that ballot box together with the ballot box number in a shopping basket and place it on their back table. They will then move onto their next ballot box and repeat the process.

The Senior Enumerator will collect forms from the "Senior Enumerator" tray and sign off **Form 1 - Postal Votes** (for either **Constituency (coloured lilac)** or **Regional List (coloured peach)** to record the number of ballot papers found in these bundles and will put the form in the tray marked "To Accountant" which will be uplifted by a Count Assistant and taken to the Accountants to check it corresponds with the Ballot Paper Account.

The returned form will be placed in the "From Accountant" tray, and the Senior Enumerator will check the form to ensure it has been agreed by the Accountant. If a recount is required, the Senior will instruct an Enumerator to do so. When Form 1 has been agreed it will be placed in the "cleared" tray, and the Senior Enumerator will record the final figures for the **Constituency box** or **Regional List box** on **Form 2**. The Senior Enumerator will then remove the shopping basket from the Enumerator's back table and place it at the Senior Enumerators back table, ready for allocation.

N.B. Postal Ballot boxes will **not** have a separate trolley case.

Verification of Ballot Paper Accounts

14. Ballot boxes will be located at tables, together with the relevant pouches from the polling station containing the unused & spoilt ballot papers and ballot paper counterfoils. The Senior Enumerator will record the number of votes contained in each ballot box and also the number of unused/spoilt papers onto Form 1. This information will be compared with the Ballot Paper Accounts returned after the close of poll by the Accountants.

The Form 1 corresponding to each ballot box, will be placed on Senior Enumerators desks prior to the commencement of the count.

Verification of Ballot Boxes

15. Senior Enumerators will instruct Enumerators to open their ballot box – snips to break the seals will be on your table. The empty ballot box needs to be shown to any Counting Agents present. The Ballot Box Number from the pouch on the box should be displayed at the right-hand side of the desk facing towards the Counting Agents, so they can clearly see which ballot box is being counted.

16. Before starting to count ballot papers, Enumerators will firstly search through the **Constituency papers *(lilac)*** and remove any **Regional list papers *(peach)*** which have been placed in the

wrong box. If any papers are found, place them into the appropriately marked tray on the back table.

The process for the Regional List ballot box is exactly the same and Enumerators should again firstly search through the **Regional list papers *(peach)*** papers and remove any **Constituency *(lilac)*** papers placed in the wrong box and, if any are found, place in the appropriately marked tray on back table.

17. Enumerators will then separate and count the ballot papers **FACE UP** into bundles of **50** and secure with an elastic band. Bundles of less than 50 to show exact numbers. Cards will be provided for each bundle of 50 and for '**odd'** bundles. Any tendered ballot papers (pink) which have been mistakenly placed in the ballot box should be removed and handed to the Senior Enumerator who will adjust the number of unused/spoilt figures on **Form 1**.

18. Once the ballot papers have been counted in 50s, the Enumerator will complete Form 1A, and place it in the "Senior Enumerator" tray. They should then place the ballot paper bundles into a shopping basket with the ballot box number on top of them and place it on the back table. Enumerators should now move on to open the next ballot box.

Ballot Papers placed in the 'wrong box'

19. During the verification process, any constituency or regional list ballot papers found in the 'wrong box' will be moved by the Mini Count Supervisor and counted with the correct ballot papers.

Pouches/ Trolley Cases

20. While the Enumerators are verifying the ballot papers, the Senior Enumerator will open the **purple pouch** (**Constituency**) or **orange pouch (Regional List)** containing the unused/spoilt ballot papers and ballot paper counterfoils, and then count the numbers of unused/spoilt ballot papers and ballot paper counterfoils in the pouch.

21. The Senior Enumerator will then complete **Form 1** (**1st count**) entering the number of unused/spoilt etc. and the number of ballot papers in the ballot box from the Form 1A prepared by Enumerators and placed in the "Senior Enumerator" tray..

22. If the figures correspond on the Form 1 **(Constituency)** or Form 1 **(Regional List),** the Senior Enumerator will place form in the tray marked "To Accountant" which will be uplifted by a Count Assistant and taken to the Accountants to check it corresponds with the Ballot Paper Account.

    The returned form will be placed in the "From Accountant" tray, and the Senior Enumerator will check the form to ensure it has been agreed by the Accountant. If a recount is required, the Senior will instruct an Enumerator to do so. When Form 1 has been agreed it will be placed in the "Cleared" tray, and the Senior will then transfer the agreed figure from Form 1 to Form 2. The Senior Enumerator will then remove the shopping basket from the Enumerator's back table and place it at the Senior Enumerators back table, ready for allocation.

23. Only, if the figures don't correspond the first time, will the enumerators be asked to carry out a 2nd check to re-count the actual number of ballot papers for either the Constituency or Regional List. At the same time, the Senior Enumerator will re-check the unused counterfoils etc, and record the figure from the 2nd check on **Form 1 (2nd count)**. If the figures still don't correspond, after a second check, the Senior Enumerator will put **Form 1** in the "To Accountant" tray to check against the Ballot Paper Account.

24. The Senior Enumerator will ask a different Enumerator to check the number of votes in a ballot box, if there are any recounts required.

25. A maximum of two checks is sufficient – unless instructed otherwise. Accountants will, therefore, advise whether a 3rd re-count is required or not. If a further re-count is required, the Senior Enumerator will advise the Enumerator to carry out the same process above. After re-count(s), the Senior Enumerator will enter figures in the **3rd count** section of Form 1 and will put **Form 1** in the "To Accountant" tray with final figure.

26. Once the Accountant has given clearance, the Senior Enumerator will record the final figures for the **Constituency box** or **Regional List box** on **Form 2** (Constituency) and Form 2 (Regional List). **These forms will be kept by the Senior Enumerator at the table throughout the process**. The Senior Enumerator will then remove the shopping basket from the Enumerator's back table and place it at the Senior Enumerators back table, ready for allocation.

    The **orange** and **purple** pouches, containing unused and spoilt ballot papers and ballot paper counterfoils, should be placed under the back tables or into the trolley case. The empty ballot boxes will also be placed under the back tables.

27. Counting agents can be advised of number of ballot papers in each box.

28. Continue to open boxes, repeating steps 15 – 26**,** until all boxes and trolley cases have been dealt with.

29. At the conclusion of the verification process, the Senior Enumerators will total the number of ballot papers on Form 2 (**Constituency**) or Form 2 (**Regional list)** and verify the figures with Accountants, by putting form 2 in "To Accountant" tray. This will be the total ballot papers to be included within the mini-count for Stage B.

30. Enumerators should then set up the wire baskets/cardboard trays for the allocation of votes, by following the layout provided for either the Constituency, or Regional List. The side screen should also be moved back.

31. Seniors will mix votes from all of the shopping baskets at their back table into 6 bundles, ready for the next stage.

    There will be a staggered break at the end of the verification process when staff will be able to have a break. You will be advised when to leave, and return.

Stage B - Allocation and counting of votes cast

32. The Senior Enumerator will firstly transfer the figure of the total ballot papers contained in the Count baskets verified (on **Form 2)** onto **Form 3** and will retain **Form 3** at the table. Enumerators will not be advised of the totals on Form 2.

33. Enumerators will pick up their bundle of votes to be allocated from the back table (refer 31).

Constituency ballot papers

34. Enumerators will place ballot papers in the appropriate wire trays for each candidate – which should be **FACE UP** at this stage. When the ballot paper basket is empty, it should be turned upside down on the back table to indicate that no papers remain in the tray.

35. A tray for the "Doubtful Ballot Papers" will be placed on each desk. Enumerators should place any paper they are unsure of in this basket.

36. Seniors will review the "Doubtful Ballot Papers" from each tray- **when all other papers have been allocated**, and any clear votes should be placed in the appropriate candidates wire basket. Once this has been done, any requiring adjudication should be placed by the Senior Enumerator in the plastic folder provided and left in the "Doubtful Ballot Papers" tray. They should then raise their hand to indicate to a member of the Returning Officer's staff that the papers are ready to be adjudicated. A vote is 'doubtful' in the following circumstances –

    - does not bear the official mark;
    - votes are given for more than one candidate;
    - anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified, except the printed number on the back;
    - any paper which is unmarked or void for uncertainty.

Announcements will be made by the Returning Officer's staff when and where Doubtful papers are to be adjudicated. Final numbers of doubtful votes, and the reason for their rejection, will be recorded on Form 3.

37. One of the Returning Officer's staff will return the plastic folder containing the 'doubtful' papers to the "Doubtful Ballot Papers" tray once they have been adjudicated. Any ballot papers 'rejected' should be placed in the 'Rejected Ballot Paper' tray, which will be placed at the back tables. Any other ballot papers which have been adjudicated as valid should be allocated to the appropriate candidate's wire basket.

38. After all the ballot papers have been separated as above, the Senior Enumerator will ask enumerators to take the votes for a specific candidate and count the ballot papers into bundles of **50** (bundles should be marked **'50 for' (and write in name of candidate, as appropriate)**. Any bundles of less than 5**0** should be secured with an elastic band and card showing the number of ballot papers in the part bundle (**and again write in name of candidate).** Each label should bear the initials of the Enumerator.

    When collating into bundles of 50, a flick through of the papers should be undertaken to ensue all votes in the bundle are for the same candidate.

39. On completion of the counted ballot papers, the Senior Enumerator will then complete **Form 3** showing the number of votes cast for each candidate. The number of rejected papers will also be recorded on the form.

40. The Senior Enumerator will place **Forms 2 and 3** in the "To Accountant'" tray where they will be uplifted by the Count Assistant to the Accountant's table and the total number of votes cast will be finalised. All ballot papers should remain at the table.

41. The Senior Enumerator will also complete the form confirming the number of rejected papers per category, which will be on the large envelope. The rejected papers should then be placed in the respective smaller category envelopes, and then into the large envelope and passed to the Accountant, via the "To Accountant" tray.

Regional list Ballot Papers

42. The Senior Enumerator will advise enumerators how to divide bundles of ballot papers into 3 bundles to make it easier for allocating. The papers will be divided as top, middle, or bottom of the list. Each Enumerator will initially sort their bundles into 3 piles, before being assigned one of these portions to allocate by the Senior Enumerator. The other 2 bundles will be passed to other Enumerators at the table under the direction of the Senior Enumerator.

43. Enumerators will then take the papers as divided and place these into the designated cardboard trays on the table for each registered party/individual regional candidate - which should be **FACE UP** at this stage.

44. A tray for the "Doubtful Ballot Papers" will be placed on the desk. Enumerators should place any paper they are unsure of in this basket.

45. Seniors will review the "Doubtful Ballot Papers" in all of the trays- **when all other papers have been allocated**, and any clear votes should be placed in the appropriate party/individuals cardboard tray. Once this has been done, any requiring adjudication should be placed by the Senior Enumerator in the plastic folder provided and left in the "Doubtful Ballot Papers" tray. They should then raise their hand to indicate to a member of the Returning Officer's staff that the papers are ready to be adjudicated. A vote is 'doubtful' in the following circumstances –

    - does not bear the official mark;
    - votes are given for more than one registered party or individual regional candidate;

- anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified, except the printed number on the back;
- any paper which is unmarked or void for uncertainty.

Announcements will be made by the Returning Officer's staff when and where Doubtful papers are to be adjudicated. Final numbers of doubtful votes, and the reason for their rejection, will be recorded on Form 3.

46. One of the Returning Officer's staff will return the plastic folder containing the 'doubtful' papers to the Doubtful Ballot Papers tray once they have been adjudicated. Any ballot papers 'rejected' should be placed in the 'Rejected Ballot Paper' tray, which will be placed at the back tables. Any other ballot papers which have been adjudicated as valid should be allocated to the appropriate party's basket.

47. After all the ballot papers have been separated as above, the Senior Enumerator will ask enumerators to take the votes for a specific party and count the ballot papers into bundles of **50** (bundles should be marked **'50 for' (and write in name of party** etc**, as appropriate)**. Any bundles of less than 5**0** should be secured with an elastic band and card showing the number of ballot papers in the part bundle (**and again write in name of party** etc**).** Each label should bear the initials of the Enumerator.

    When collating into bundles of 50, a flick through of the papers should be undertaken to ensue all votes in the bundle are for the same candidate.

48. On completion of the counted ballot papers, the Senior Enumerator will then complete **Form 3** showing the number of votes cast for each party. The number of rejected papers will also be recorded on the form.

49. The Senior Enumerator will place **Forms 2 and 3** in the "To Accountant'" tray where they will be uplifted by the Count Assistant to the Accountant's table and the total number of votes cast will be finalised. All ballot papers should remain at the table.

50. The Senior Enumerator will also complete the form confirming the number of rejected papers per category, which will be on the large envelope. The rejected papers should then be placed in the respective smaller category envelopes, and then into the large envelope and passed to the Accountant, via the "To Accountant" tray.

End of Count

51. Enumerators will put all the ballot papers for either the **Constituency** or **Regional List** in an empty shopping basket, placing them on the back table.

52. Enumerating staff should remain in their seats until the Returning Officer has announced the result.

53. After the declaration of the results, Enumerators should assist with the packaging of the relevant paperwork and stationery from the table and tidying up of the count venue.

54. At the conclusion of the count, the Senior Enumerators and Enumerators are asked to remain in the Count Hall until advised to leave by the Returning Officer's staff.

Steve Grimmond,
Returning Officer.