

2019 Reviews of Electoral Arrangements
Existing wards - Electorate Data (Dec 2017 and forecast)

Council Area	Ward Number	Ward Name	Cllrs	Local Govt Electorate Dec 2017	5 year Forecast Local Govt Electorate
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	1	Barraigh, Bhatarsaigh, Eirisgeigh agus Uibhist a Deas	4	2,493	2,372
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	2	Beinn na Foghla agus Uibhist a Tuath	3	2,316	2,205
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	3	Na Hearadh agus Ceann a Deas nan Loch	3	1,865	1,803
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	4	Sgìr' Uige agus Ceann a Tuath nan Loch	3	2,407	2,294
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	5	Sgìre an Rubha	3	1,869	1,760
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	6	Steòrnabhagh a Deas	4	2,972	3,142
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	7	Steòrnabhagh a Tuath	4	2,959	2,787
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	8	Loch a Tuath	3	2,256	2,175
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	9	An Taobh Siar agus Nis	4	2,524	2,373
			31	21,661	20,910

Council Area	Ward Number	Ward Name	Cllrs	Local Govt Electorate Dec 2017	5 year Forecast Local Govt Electorate
Orkney Islands	1	Kirkwall East	4	3,416	3,422
Orkney Islands	2	Kirkwall West and Orphir	4	3,454	3,492
Orkney Islands	3	Stromness and South Isles	3	2,147	2,140
Orkney Islands	4	West Mainland	4	3,521	3,492
Orkney Islands	5	East Mainland, South Ronaldsay and Burray	3	2,702	2,670
Orkney Islands	6	North Isles	3	1,798	1,771
			21	17,038	16,988

Council Area	Ward Number	Ward Name	Cllrs	Local Govt Electorate Dec 2017	5 year Forecast Local Govt Electorate
Shetland Islands	1	North Isles	3	2,207	2,207
Shetland Islands	2	Shetland North	3	2,504	2,523
Shetland Islands	3	Shetland West	3	2,038	2,051
Shetland Islands	4	Shetland Central	3	2,365	2,400
Shetland Islands	5	Shetland South	3	2,836	2,852
Shetland Islands	6	Lerwick North	3	2,334	2,336
Shetland Islands	7	Lerwick South	4	3,445	3,504
			22	17,729	17,873

Source 2017 electorate:

NRS <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/electoral-statistics/1st-december-2017>

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Argyll & Bute	1	South Kintyre	3	5,103	4,919
Argyll & Bute	2	Kintyre and the Islands	3	5,148	5,230
Argyll & Bute	3	Mid Argyll	3	5,985	5,927
Argyll & Bute	4	Oban South and the Isles	4	7,896	7,825
Argyll & Bute	5	Oban North and Lorn	4	7,862	8,274
Argyll & Bute	6	Cowal	3	5,734	5,596
Argyll & Bute	7	Dunoon	3	5,500	5,304
Argyll & Bute	8	Isle of Bute	3	4,696	4,406
Argyll & Bute	9	Lomond North	3	6,000	5,858
Argyll & Bute	10	Helensburgh Central	4	7,357	6,924
Argyll & Bute	11	Helensburgh and Lomond South	3	5,444	5,570
			36	66,725	65,834

Council Area	Ward Number	Ward Name	Cllrs	Local Govt Electorate Dec 2018	5 year Forecast Local Govt Electorate
Highland	1	North, West and Central Sutherland	3	4,833	4,578
Highland	2	Thurso and Northwest Caithness	4	10,083	9,543
Highland	3	Wick and East Caithness	4	9,815	9,389
Highland	4	East Sutherland and Edderton	3	6,263	6,183
Highland	5	Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh	4	9,895	9,441
Highland	6	Cromarty Firth	4	9,643	9,529
Highland	7	Tain and Easter Ross	3	7,050	6,758
Highland	8	Dingwall and Seaforth	4	10,063	10,490
Highland	9	Black Isle	3	8,503	8,314
Highland	10	Eilean a' Cheo	4	8,579	8,299
Highland	11	Caol and Mallaig	3	7,003	7,150
Highland	12	Aird and Loch Ness	4	9,716	9,585
Highland	13	Inverness West	3	8,178	8,526
Highland	14	Inverness Central	3	8,641	8,224
Highland	15	Inverness Ness-Side	3	8,151	9,257
Highland	16	Inverness Millburn	3	7,634	7,494
Highland	17	Culloden and Ardersier	3	8,240	11,297
Highland	18	Nairn and Cawdor	4	10,425	10,047
Highland	19	Inverness South	4	11,543	11,962
Highland	20	Badenoch and Strathspey	4	10,637	11,310
Highland	21	Fort William and Ardnamurchan	4	8,646	8,567
			74	183,541	185,943

Council Area	Ward Number	Ward Name	Cllrs	Local Govt Electorate Dec 2018	5 year Forecast Local Govt Electorate
North Ayrshire	1	Irvine West	4	11,921	11,525
North Ayrshire	2	Irvine East	3	9,907	9,765
North Ayrshire	3	Kilwinning	4	13,297	12,988
North Ayrshire	4	Stevenson	3	9,509	9,157
North Ayrshire	5	Ardrossan and Arran	3	9,584	9,432
North Ayrshire	6	Dalry and West Kilbride	3	9,951	9,877
North Ayrshire	7	Kilbirnie and Beith	3	10,501	10,097
North Ayrshire	8	North Coast and Cumbraes	4	13,524	13,455
North Ayrshire	9	Saltcoats	3	9,842	9,625
North Ayrshire	10	Irvine South	3	8,815	9,187
			33	106,851	105,108

Methodology for forecasting ward electorates

At the start of the review, collate the current electoral data published by National Records of Scotland.

The rules governing reviews state that we must take into account the likely change in the number and distribution of the local government electorate over a 5 year period from the start of the review when aiming for electoral parity.

Our approach to this requirement is to collect data from each local authority on expected new residential development and demolition within its area over the 5 year period, with as much detail about location as is available. From this data, combined with data on the existing average number of electors per dwelling in the area, we calculate a forecast of electorate for the 5 year period. Our experience has found that an increase in development in one part of a council area does not necessarily result in an increase in electorate across the whole council area.

Experience has also shown that this approach alone has often produced forecast electorates that are higher than those occurring in practice. Therefore, to assist us in achieving a better forecast, we also take population projections for the same period from the National Records of Scotland. Using these, we scale the forecast electorate to reflect the projected population change.

The table below sets out the steps that we take to complete this calculation. An example with a fictitious council area is also provided.

Step	Description	Variable
1	Collate local government electorate per ward, excluding attainers, from electoral register: https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/electoral-statistics	E
2	Calculate electorate for council area by adding ward data.	EC
3	Tabulate council area dwelling count from NRS: http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/housholds/household-estimates . We use count of dwellings rather than households (dwellings include vacant property and second homes) since the forecast change data from councils is also about dwellings rather than households.	D
4	Calculate electorate per dwelling for council area.	$N=EC/D$
5	Collate new build and demolition data from council per ward for next 5 years and hence change in number of dwellings per ward.	C
6	Calculate raw forecast electorate per ward	$R=E+(C*N)$
7	Calculate council area raw forecast electorate by adding ward raw forecasts.	RC
8	Tabulate current population (PC) and projected population for next 5 years (PP) from NRS population projections for Scottish areas - http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-projections	PC PP
9	Calculate scaling factor so that electorate change over period is consistent with NRS projected population change for period.	$S=(EC*PP)/(PC*RC)$
10	Calculate forecast ward electorates by applying scaling factor to each raw forecast ward electorate.	$F=S*R$
11	Calculate council area forecast electorate by adding forecast ward electorates.	FC

Fictitious example of a council area with 4 wards

Step	Data	Calculation	
1	Current ward electorates Ward 1 - 10,000 Ward 2 - 10,000 Ward 3 - 10,000 Ward 4 - 10,000		E
2		Council area total = $10,000 + 10,000 + 10,000 + 10,000$ $= 40,000$	EC
3	Current dwelling count - 32,000		D
4		Electorate per dwelling = $40,000 / 32,000$ 1.25	N
5	Change in dwellings per ward Ward 1 - 4,000 Ward 2 - 0 Ward 3 - 0 Ward 4 - 0		C
6		Raw forecast electorates Ward 1: $10,000 + (4,000 * 1.25) = 15,000$ Ward 2: $10,000 + (0 * 1.25) = 10,000$ Ward 3: $10,000 + (0 * 1.25) = 10,000$ Ward 4: $10,000 + (0 * 1.25) = 10,000$	R
7		Council area raw forecast electorate $15,000 + 10,000 + 10,000 + 10,000$ $= 45,000$	RC
8	Current population - 50,000 5 year forecast population - 55,000		PC PP
9		Scaling factor $(40,000 * 55,000) / (50,000 * 45,000)$ 0.9778	S
10		Forecast electorates Ward 1: $15,000 * 0.9778 = 14,666$ Ward 2: $10,000 * 0.9778 = 9,778$ Ward 3: $10,000 * 0.9778 = 9,778$ Ward 4: $10,000 * 0.9778 = 9,778$	F
11		Council area forecast electorate $14,666 + 9,778 + 9,778 + 9,778$ $= 44,000$	FC