

Third Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements

East Renfrewshire Council Area

Report to the Secretary of State for Scotland

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland

**Report Number E98017
August 1998**

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland

Third Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements

East Renfrewshire Council Area

Constitution of Commission

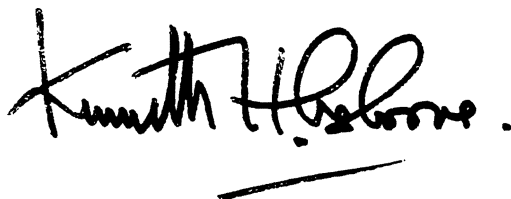
Chairman:	The Honourable Lord Osborne
Deputy Chairman:	Mr K J Clark CBE
Commissioners:	Dr E Graham
	Mr S McDowall CBE
	Mrs G Silver

The Rt. Hon Donald Dewar MP
Secretary of State for Scotland

We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland, present our proposals for the future electoral arrangements for East Renfrewshire Council area resulting from our Third Statutory Review of all Scottish local authorities.

In accordance with the provisions of section 18(3) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, copies of our report, together with illustrative maps, are being sent to East Renfrewshire Council with a request that the report and maps should be made available for public inspection at their offices. In addition, copies of our report, without maps, are being sent to those who received a copy of our consultation letter or who have subsequently expressed an interest by making detailed representations in respect of our provisional proposals which were published on 4 September 1997.

Notice is also being given in newspapers circulating in the Council area of the fact that the report has been made so that interested persons may inspect the report and maps at the Council's Offices.



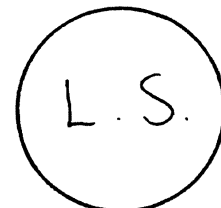
The Honourable Lord Osborne
Chairman
for Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland



R Smith
Secretary

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland
3 Drumsheugh Gardens
Edinburgh
EH3 7QJ

August 1998



Third Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements East Renfrewshire Council Area

Contents

	Paragraph
Introduction	1 - 3
Origin and Commencement of Review	4 - 6
Background	7 - 9
Number of Councillors	10 - 21
East Renfrewshire Council's Proposals	22 - 25
The Commission's Provisional Proposals	26
Consideration of Representations	27
Final Recommendation	28 - 29
List of Maps	30
Appendix A:	Rules to be Observed in Considering Electoral Arrangements
Appendix B:	Designations and Electorate of proposed Electoral Wards for East Renfrewshire Council Area.
Appendix C:	Descriptions of Boundaries of proposed Electoral Wards for East Renfrewshire Council Area.

Third Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements East Renfrewshire Council Area

Introduction

1. The Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 determined that on and after 1 April 1996, Scotland should be divided into local government areas as named and described in Schedule 1 to the Act and that, for each area, there should be a council consisting of a convener and councillors. It further determined that each council should have all the functions exercised immediately before 1 April in relation to their area by any existing regional, islands or district council.
2. On 1 April 1996 all local government areas existing immediately before that date which were regions and districts and all regional and district councils ceased to exist.
3. Schedule 2 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 also established that every local government area (other than areas of the old islands councils) should be divided into such electoral wards as may be specified in a direction made by the Secretary of State after carrying out such consultations as he considered appropriate. Those wards were to apply for the purpose of any election of councillors held before 'the relevant year of election' (defined as meaning the first year of ordinary election of councillors for the area in question occurring after the making of an order constituting the new electoral wards of that local government area in consequence of the review currently being undertaken by the Commission). In accordance with procedures that applied prior to the reorganisation in 1975, the views of councils were invited. Thereafter, the Secretary of State determined that, for the purpose of any election of councillors before the relevant year of election, 20 electoral wards were appropriate for East Renfrewshire local government area. Additionally, the proposed wards should be as described in the reports of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland to the Secretary of State for Scotland on its second statutory review of electoral arrangements for Eastwood District dated 9 June 1994 (15 Wards) and Renfrew District dated 21 September 1994 (the 5 wards numbered 21 to 25).

Origin and Commencement of the Review

4. The Commission has a statutory duty under section 14 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to undertake periodic reviews of local authority electoral arrangements. The Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 amended section 20 and schedule 5 of the 1973 Act, directing that:

as soon as practicable after 1 April 1996, the Boundary Commission shall-

review the electoral arrangements for all local government areas for the purpose of considering the future electoral arrangements for those areas; and

formulate proposals for those arrangements.

5. This, therefore, is one of the statutory reviews required in terms of section 16(2) and Schedule 5 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended.
6. On 22 March 1996, the Scottish Office Development Department gave local authorities advance notice of the intention of the Commission to carry out a third statutory review of electoral arrangements. On 29 March 1996, we wrote to all councils to announce the commencement of the third statutory review of electoral arrangements and to explain the procedures to be followed. We also gave notice of the commencement of the review to all Community Councils, Electoral Registration Officers, Members of Parliament with a constituency interest and the Scottish headquarters of the political parties. In addition, public notice of the commencement of the review, which included an invitation to interested parties to apply to us for a copy of our consultation letter to councils, was given in newspapers.

Background

7. During the passage through Parliament of the 1994 Act, there was cross-Party understanding that we would review the number of councillors and boundaries of electoral wards for each council in time for changes to be implemented for the 1999 local elections. This was seen to be important because at the time of reorganisation, as mentioned above, the Secretary of State defined the electoral wards for the new councils and to a great extent based these on existing district wards. It was, however, recognised that using the existing district wards led to some councils being significantly over-represented in relation to other areas. Further, it also led to councillors within the same local authority areas representing wards with significantly different numbers of electors. Accordingly, our review was seen as important to ensure equity in representation across and within all local authorities. Further, the new authorities were now responsible for the provision of the full range of all services and, accordingly, consideration had to be given to determining an appropriate number of councillors for service provision to be effectively managed.
8. This review is, therefore, the first conducted by us which sets out to determine the appropriate number of councillors required for councils to operate efficiently and to establish the boundaries of electoral wards. To achieve both objectives our review was conducted in 2 main stages:

identification of a suitable methodology for determining numbers of councillors which, applied across all local authority areas, would be seen to be equitable and consistent; and

the division of each local authority area into the appropriate number of electoral wards in accordance with the statutory rules.

9. A copy of the statutory rules to be employed by us and the Secretary of State in considering proposals for electoral arrangements is provided at Appendix A.

Number of Councillors

10. In formulating proposals for the number of councillors we have been guided by two main principles:

effective management of councils; and

equity amongst electors.

11. We recognised that the number of councillors is crucial because there is, undoubtedly, some number below which it would be impossible for a council to discharge its duty to deliver services to its population and, conversely, there is also some number above which a council becomes unwieldy and cumbersome. We were influenced in this respect by the prior considerations of two other bodies.
12. The Royal Commission on Local Government In Scotland 1966-69, under the Chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. Lord Wheatley, provided a basis by which the number of regional councillors and the size of constituency to be represented might be determined by taking into account the fact that population density varies widely in Scotland as a whole and within regions. The then accepted view was that council size should not generally exceed 75 members. In England and Wales the Redcliffe-Maude Commission, which reported to Parliament in 1969, also drew attention to the management problems of large councils and endorsed the recommendation of The Committee on the Management of Local Government that a maximum number of 75 councillors should be set.
13. After careful consideration we concluded that, in the Scottish context and to provide additional flexibility, an upper limit of 80 councillors should be set. We also concluded that a minimum number of councillors should be set, recognising that even the smallest local government areas are now responsible for a wide range of functions. Accordingly, we decided that the minimum number of councillors should be 18. Further, these limits should apply to all councils.
14. Regarding equity as between voters, we considered that ideally each elector's vote should possess the same weight and significance in local government elections throughout the country; furthermore, ideally, there should be similar mutual accessibility between electors and councillors. However, since Scotland is a country of great diversity, both geographically, and demographically, a fact reflected in the areas for which councils created by the Act of 1994 are

responsible, and since we are satisfied that, in the interests of good local government, the number of councillors in any council must fall within certain limits, we concluded that these ideals are unattainable in practice. In this situation, recognising that a fair degree of homogeneity exists within certain groups of councils, which exhibit broadly similar geographic and demographic characteristics, we resolved to strive for equity in the senses mentioned within these groups, so far as that is possible within the constraints of the legislation under which we operate.

15. We, therefore, proposed a methodology which initially categorised council areas by density and distribution of population using data available from the 1991 Census of Population. Having classified council areas according to these criteria and adjusted the ratio of electors to each councillor to take account of similar characteristics, we have been able to achieve a broad equity of electorate across and within all council areas.
16. In our letter of 29 March 1996, all councils were informed of the proposed methodology and future pattern of representation for their council area. Councils were requested to make any representations they wished on numbers of councillors by 29 April 1996 so that a meeting could be arranged with the Deputy Chairman and Secretary to discuss the pattern of representation and any matters regarding our review that the Council wished to raise. Following visits to all councils by the Deputy Chairman and Secretary to discuss the proposed methodology and to consider alternatives which could be applied across Scotland, no alternative methodologies were offered but a number of councils suggested that the underlying classification should be amended to include an additional category.
17. At our meeting of 17 June 1996, we re-examined the criteria to be used to categorise mainland councils with similar characteristics in light of the representations made by a number of councils. We concluded that there should be 6 rather than 5 categories. The final categorisation of similar mainland councils was then agreed as follows:
 - Category 1 Large Cities Glasgow and Edinburgh.
 - Category 2 Cities Aberdeen and Dundee.
 - Category 3 Authorities with less than 60% of the population living outwith settlements of 10,000 or more persons **AND** an overall population density of one person or more per hectare.
 - Category 4 Authorities with **EITHER** 60% or more of the population living outwith settlements of 10,000 or more persons **OR** an overall population density of less than one person per hectare.

- Category 5 Authorities with 60% or more of the population living outwith settlements of 10,000 or more persons **AND** an overall population density of less than one person per hectare.
- Category 6 Authorities with 60% or more of the population living outwith settlements of 10,000 or more persons **AND** an overall population density of less than 0.2 persons per hectare.

18. In addition to the 6 categories we then determined the ratio of councillors to electorate for mainland councils that would allow for efficient management and appropriate representation, as set out in paragraphs 11 - 14 above, and considered that the following would be appropriate:

- | | |
|--------------|---------|
| • Category 1 | 1:6,000 |
| • Category 2 | 1:4,000 |
| • Category 3 | 1:3,500 |
| • Category 4 | 1:3,000 |
| • Category 5 | 1:2,500 |
| • Category 6 | 1:2,000 |

19. On 20 June 1996 we wrote to all mainland councils informing them of the revised criteria for determining councillor numbers and inviting them to prepare a draft scheme of electoral arrangements for their Council area. Following upon that, Aberdeen City Council brought a petition for Judicial Review of the decision taken by us at our meeting of 17 June, 1996 in the Court of Session. In it they sought a decree of declarator that that decision in relation to them was unlawful, ultra vires and null and void; they also sought a decree of reduction of the decision in relation to them and certain ancillary remedies. We resisted this petition, which was dismissed by the Court on 20 December 1996 after a hearing.

20. We considered the ratio of councillors to electors for the 3 islands councils at our meeting of 26 August 1996 and concluded that the appropriate ratio would be 1:750. On 28 August 1996 we wrote to these councils informing them of our decision.

21. On 16 July 1996, East Renfrewshire Council acknowledged our decision that 20 members would provide the appropriate level of representation for its area and that a draft scheme of electoral arrangements would be submitted by mid September.

East Renfrewshire Council's Proposals

22. The Council submitted a scheme of electoral arrangements for 20 wards on 4 October 1996, wrote to all Community Councils seeking their views, made copies of its proposals available for inspection and published details of its draft proposals in local newspapers asking that representation be made either to the Council or the Commission.

23. We noted that the Council's draft scheme retained the existing structure of electoral ward boundaries and that, although we had had an early indication from the Council that this would be the basis of a draft scheme, we had been assured that existing boundaries would be appropriately adjusted to meet the statutory rule regarding electoral parity. The Council's view was that, because the existing 20 wards had been in place for such a short time, any change would give rise to public confusion. However, it was clear from the electorate data provided by the Council that the divergence from electoral parity in the Council's proposals ranged between -13% and 21%, only three of the proposed wards were within $\pm 5\%$ of parity and, in eight wards, the divergence from parity was greater than $\pm 10\%$. We, therefore, directed officers of the Commission to seek assistance from the Council in preparing a draft scheme which met the statutory requirements.
24. As a result of the Council's public consultation exercise only Eaglesham Community Council made representation. It considered that all of Waterfoot should be in the same ward. It stated that the the transfer of part of Waterfoot to Clarkston at the time of the last review was unfortunate and that the position should be rectified as soon as possible. The Community Council accepted the desire of the Council not to disturb recently formed boundaries and accepted that the Council should note the view for future reference.
25. Our officers met with Council officials and, thereafter, developed two options for revised electoral arrangements for the Council area. We noted the view of our officers that, whilst working on the ground within the Council area, they concluded that the geography and settlement pattern made it impossible to prepare revised electoral arrangements which resolved all of the problems with electoral parity identified in the Council's original draft. We noted also that under both schemes developed by our officers it was not possible to accommodate the wishes of Eaglesham Community Council. However, having carefully examined both options we agreed to adopt the second option which we considered best met the overall requirements of the statutory rules, as our provisional proposals.

Publication of Commission's Provisional Proposals

26. Public notice was given of the publication of our provisional proposals on 4 September 1997. East Renfrewshire Council was asked to make copies of the electoral ward boundary descriptions, electoral statistics and illustrative maps available for inspection at its offices. Additionally, copies of our proposals were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had expressed an interest. We asked that any comments should be made to us by 2 October 1997.

Consideration of Representations

27. Eight representations were received:

- **The Council** wrote to say that its General Purposes Committee had agreed to accept our provisional proposals subject to a number of minor alterations to ward names. Changes to the narrative descriptions, in respect of revised grid references and ground detail not reflected in the base maps, were also suggested.
- **Eaglesham Community Council** expressed regret that our proposals separated people in Craighlaw Crescent, Woodside Drive and parts of Glasgow Road and Floors Road from the remainder of Eaglesham. It noted that the statutory rules meant that our proposals were inevitable but hoped that they did not directly affect Community Council boundaries. We noted the Community Council's comments.
- **Giffnock and District Residents' Association** were dismayed that our proposals upset the ward boundaries so soon and, in the case of the Giffnock Wards, for no apparent reason because they compared favourably with the result it considered we wished to achieve in Barrhead. It considered that the population in the area had increased in recent years with no sign of changing and that there were developments in train which would increase pressure for new housing. It, therefore, further considered that there was no point in attempting to reduce the number of Eastwood Wards by allocating parts of Clarkston to the Giffnock Wards and suggested that a more equitable solution would be to increase the number of wards in East Renfrewshire to 21.

We noted that our proposals for revised electoral wards included forecast changes in the electorate through housing developments etc. contained in the Council's initial draft proposals. We considered the Residents' Association's view that the Council area should have 21 electoral wards but concluded that, in the overall Scottish context, 20 Councillors was the appropriate level of representation for East Renfrewshire Council area. Accordingly, we were not prepared to amend our provisional proposals.

- **Councillor I Drysdale** considered that one could accept that the number of electors in Barrhead, Neilston, and Uplawmoor Wards was high when compared with the former Eastwood area Wards but he believed that there was a relatively small difference when the figures were examined. The average electors in the present Barrhead and Eastwood Wards is 3,900 and 3,500 respectively and new build projections for Barrhead were minimal compared with Eastwood. He believed that, in the largely urban sectors of the Council area, there was no practical reason why wards should not have a higher electorate

which would allow rural wards to have fewer electors. The Councillor also believed that our provisional proposals challenged logic, in light of original intentions which would have resulted in 19 wards in the Council area (6 in Barrhead and 13 in Eastwood) with over 4,000 electors in the average Eastwood ward. There would be no objection to an additional ward in Barrhead if a similar level of representation had been maintained over the whole Council area.

He believed also that the Commission's proposals had not considered the whole area on the basis of good practical common sense and concentrated too much on trying to achieve electoral parity. The review system seemed to fail to serve the democratic requirements of any fair review in that it seemed to pay heed to interim responses yet produced a result which was against the expressed wishes of the consultees.

In the Eastwood area the Councillor believed that Stamperland had well-defined boundaries and it made no practical sense to take the Ward boundary into Williamswood. It was thought that Busby had similarly well-defined boundaries and that extending Busby into Clarkston was to deny proper representation from a Clarkston Councillor and give a Busby Councillor additional duties which might inhibit proper representation of an area which had particular needs. Our proposals were seen not to take account of school catchment areas and the Councillor enquired if it was not the intention of a previous boundary decision to reunite Busby within Eastwood.

It was further contended that Williamswood and Giffnock South Wards had been much changed by successive decisions of the Commission but there was a strong argument that, as they are presently laid out, they best represent their true character and origin. The areas were formed in the first half of this century to satisfy particular sectors of the housing market and there remained a strong bond and social affinity that was the original aim of the builders and planners.

Regarding electoral parity, the Councillor stated the electoral rolls in the two parts of the Council area had been turned on their head. The average electorate in Barrhead would be in the order of 3,200 whilst that for Eastwood would be about 3,700. There was no good reason why Eastwood should not continue with 15 wards of 3,500 electors on average, particularly given the new build programme for Eastwood. It was argued that 21 wards would result in parity being around 3,418 electors and that a number of wards as they presently exist could remain unchanged.

We noted the Councillor's comments. In considering revised electoral arrangements, we are obliged to ensure that, as far as practicable, the number of electors in every electoral ward in a Council area is the

same. We noted that maintaining present arrangements would result in significant divergence from electoral parity in many wards and concluded that retention of the status quo was, therefore, not acceptable within the statutory rules. Our proposals for electoral wards included forecast changes in the electorate through housing developments etc. contained in the Council's initial draft proposals. We further concluded that our provisional proposals achieved a balance of electorate across the Council area bearing in mind the geography, topography and settlement pattern. Accordingly, we were unable to adopt the various changes suggested.

- **Councillor J Shaw** wrote to say that he understood his political association had strongly objected to our proposals on the grounds of parity. He wished to object further on the grounds that the statutory criteria of parity and equity would not be achieved by 2001 and that dislocation for the third time since 1992 in the geographical make up of his ward was basically unfair to both Councillors and electorate. He also considered that our proposals breached the statutory rule regarding the fixing of boundaries which are, and will remain, identifiable and have regard to the breaking of community ties.

We noted the Councillor's views. As we mention above, with regard to electoral parity, we are obliged to ensure that, as far as practicable, the number of electors in every electoral ward in a Council area is the same. We concluded that in determining boundaries and being mindful of the need to observe the primary rule concerning parity, our proposals achieved a balance across the Council area within the constraints of the geography, topography and settlement pattern.

- **Eastwood Conservative and Unionist Association** protested at our provisional proposals. It stated that the existing Eastwood wards were already 4.5% higher on average compared to Barrhead wards. The basis of the Association's objection went to the very core of the Commission's remit. The Commission was required under the rules to achieve equity and parity within five years of its initial proposals. By allocating another Councillor to Barrhead parity and equity had been achieved in that Local Government area. In Eastwood the situation was totally different, the average electorate per ward was 15% higher than in Barrhead and this could not, by any stretch of the imagination, meet with the statutory rules. An extra Councillor should be allocated to Eastwood. The solution was to leave the wards in Eastwood as they were and increase the number of wards in the Council area to 21. Further, the Association wrote to say that it could not be fair to have 3,880 electors in one ward and 3,214 in another. Our proposals eliminated Williamswood, one of the oldest known areas in East Renfrewshire with a named school and station. This created a knock-on effect in all the adjoining wards. The Association felt strongly that

our proposals did not satisfy the statutory rules and asked that an Assistant Commissioner be appointed to hold a local meeting.

We noted that maintaining existing arrangements would result in significant divergence from electoral parity in many wards and we concluded that retention of the status quo, which was constrained by the boundaries of the previous District Council areas, was, therefore, not acceptable within the statutory rules - electoral parity was calculated across the whole Council area. We observed that the forecast of electoral parity at 2001 was 3,589 electors and that our provisional proposals achieved divergence from parity ranging between -10% and 8% across the Council area, compared with -13% and 21% if existing boundaries were retained. Bearing in mind the geography, topography and settlement pattern, we concluded that our proposals were equitable. We considered the view that the Council area should have 21 electoral wards but concluded that, in the overall Scottish context, 20 Councillors was the appropriate level of representation for East Renfrewshire Council area. Accordingly, we were not prepared to amend our provisional proposals and further concluded that the Appointment of an Assistant Commissioner to conduct a local meeting was not appropriate.

- A representation was received which stated that, to the best of the correspondent's knowledge and subject to certain geographical and other restrictions, wards had to be roughly equal in size and that account had to be taken of population projections. It was considered that the Council area was divided into two distinct areas - Eastwood and Barrhead. On the basis of electoral roll data it was considered that there were no logical reason for the changes we proposed. In further correspondence we were asked to provide a breakdown of the electoral data in our proposals and that, whilst it was appreciated that equalising ward numbers was a main consideration, Eastwood and Barrhead were two entirely separate and distinct communities - a fact which should not be ignored. In later correspondence it was contended that Eaglesham was a separate community which had sufficient electorate to justify a ward of its own. It was considered that, if the electorate in Ward 6 was spread over Wards 1 - 5 and Wards 7 - 19 were reduced in size accordingly, the variation from the average at present in Wards 7 - 19 would reduce from 15.35% to 12%. It was further suggested that our proposals created greater disparity than existing wards.

We noted the views expressed but, for the reasons we set out above in discussing representations from Councillor Drysdale and the Eastwood Conservative and Unionist Association, we were not prepared to amend our provisional proposals.

- A representation was received which stated that the correspondent was disturbed to find that we proposed to reduce the number of wards in

Eastwood and, having read the rules, had calculated that it would be much more equitable to have 6 wards in Barrhead and 15 wards in Eastwood. In further correspondence it was suggested that our proposals failed to meet the statutory rules and that the goal posts had been moved. We were also asked why East Renfrewshire could not have 21 Councillors and the position regarding the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner to hold a local meeting was also raised.

We noted the views expressed but, for the reasons we set out above in discussing representations from Councillor Drysdale and the Eastwood Conservative and Unionist Association, we were not prepared to amend our provisional proposals and further concluded that the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner to conduct a local meeting was not appropriate.

Final Recommendation

28. Having conducted the third statutory review of electoral arrangements for East Renfrewshire Council area in accordance with the procedures described above, we **recommend** that future electoral arrangements for the said Council should provide for a Council of 20 members.
29. The designation of the electoral wards that we recommend for East Renfrewshire Council, together with information which we have received from the Council as to the 1996 electorate and forecast 2001 electorate of the proposed wards are set out at Appendix B to this report.
30. The boundaries of the proposed electoral wards are described in Appendix C and the following illustrative maps accompany this report:

Map	Area	Scale
1	East Renfrewshire Council Area	1:25,000
2	Barrhead	1:10,000
3	Eastwood	1:10,000

**Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973: Schedule 6
(As amended by the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994)
Rules to be Observed in Considering Electoral Arrangements**

1. (1) This Schedule applies to the consideration by the Secretary of State or the Boundary Commission of the electoral arrangements for election of councillors of local government areas.
 - (2) Having regard to any change in the number or distribution of electors of a local government area likely to take place within the period of five years immediately following the consideration, the number of local government electors shall be, as nearly as may be, the same in every electoral area of that local government area.
 - (3) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) above, in considering the electoral arrangements referred to in sub-paragraph (1) above regard shall be had to-
 - (a) the desirability of fixing boundaries which are and will remain easily identifiable;
 - (b) any local ties which would be broken by the fixing of any particular boundary.
2. The strict application of the rule stated in paragraph 1(2) above may be departed from in any area where special geographical conditions appear to render a departure desirable.

East Renfrewshire Council Area Proposed Electoral Wards

Number	Name	Electorate	
		1996 (Actual)	2001 (Estimated)
a	b	c	d
1	Liboside	3,197	3,296
2	Barrhead North	3,216	3,257
3	North Neilston and West Arthurlie	3,246	3,290
4	Barrhead Central	3,157	3,214
5	Barrhead East	3,469	3,230
6	Auchenback	3,100	3,214
7	Greenfarm	3,320	3,680
8	Thornliebank	3,143	3,726
9	Giffnock North	3,046	3,795
10	Merrylea Park	3,841	3,773
11	Netherlee	2,863	3,632
12	Crookfur	3,502	3,854
13	Giffnock South	3,228	3,625
14	Stamperland	3,389	3,748
15	Broom	3,165	3,880
16	Kirkhill	4,230	3,747
17	Clarkston	3,278	3,739
18	Busby	3,804	3,784
19	Mearns	3,584	3,759
20	Eaglesham	3,188	3,540
Total		66,966	71,783

**East Renfrewshire Council Area
Proposed Electoral Wards
Descriptions of Boundaries**

Notes:

In the following description of boundaries:

- ♦ a reference to a road, footpath, railway line, river, burn or canal shall, where the context so admits, be construed as the centre line of the feature concerned; and
- ♦ the following abbreviations are used:

EW for Electoral Ward

NG Ref for National Grid
Reference as published on
Ordnance Survey Maps.

**Ward 1
Liboside**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 4516 5897 on the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council where it crosses the Killoch Water; then generally southeastward and eastward along the said water to where it is crossed by an unnamed road at NG Ref NS 4688 5818; then southeastward along the said unnamed road to its junction with Fereneze Road at NG Ref NS 4709 5792; then southeastward and eastward along the said road to and generally southwestward and southward along Station Brae to its junction with Lochlibo Road at NG Ref NS 4725 5747; then northeastward along the said road to and southeastward along Holehouse Brae to its junction with Main Street at NG Ref NS 4759 5702; then northeastward along the said street to and southeastward along Station Road to its junction with Kingston Road at NG Ref NS 4797 5710; then southward along the said road to where it is crossed by the Glasgow/Neilston Railway Line at NG Ref NS 4797 5707; then generally eastward along the said railway line to where it meets the former council boundary of Eastwood District at NG Ref NS 5043 5721; then generally southwestward along the said former council boundary to the southern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council at NG Ref NS 4695 5176; then generally northwestward, northeastward and eastward along the said Council boundary to the point of commencement.

**Ward 2
Barrhead North**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 4516 5897 where the northern boundary of EW 1 meets the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council; then generally northeastward, southeastward and southwestward along the said Council boundary to where it is crossed by the Glasgow/Dumfries Railway Line at NG Ref NS 5126 6023; then southwestward along the said railway line to the northern boundary of EW 1 at NG Ref NS 4727 5754; then generally northwestward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

**Ward 3
North Neilston and West Arthurlie**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 4727 5755 where the northern boundary of EW 1 meets the southern boundary of EW 2; then northeastward along the said EW boundary to where it crosses Cross Arthurlie Street at NG Ref NS 4979 5930; then generally southward along the said street to and southwestward along Kelburn Street to its junction with Kirkton Avenue at NG Ref NS 4965 5856; then generally southward and eastward along the said avenue to a point in line with the rear curtilage of No 1 Kirktonside at NG Ref NS 4969 5844; then southward to and southeastward along the said curtilage to and continuing southeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 3-11 Kirktonside to and southeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 45-67 Colinbar Circle to and northeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 18-2 Park Avenue to Springhill Road at NG Ref NS 4995 5815; then generally southward along the said road to the northern boundary of EW 1 at NG Ref NS 4988 5727; then generally westward and northwestward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

**Ward 4
Barrhead Central**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 4979 5928 on the eastern boundary of EW 3 at its junction with Cross Arthurlie Street and Carlibar Road; then northeastward and southeastward along the said road to and generally southward along Glen Street to its junction with Main Street at NG Ref NS 5015 5888; then northeastward along the said street to and southward along Arthurlie Street to a point in line with the northern curtilage of No 21 Arthurlie Street at NG Ref NS 5037 5886; then northeastward to and along the said curtilage to and generally southeastward

along the rear curtilages of Nos 21-91 Arthurlie Street to and southwestward along the southern curtilage of No 91 Arthurlie Street to Arthurlie Street at NG Ref NS 5060 5851; then southeastward along the said street to and southwestward along Aurs Drive to its junction with Roebank Drive at NG Ref NS 5045 5827; then southeastward and southwestward along the said drive to a point in line with the northern curtilage of No 2 Newton Avenue at NG Ref NS 5038 5811; then southwestward to and along the said curtilage to and northwestward along the western boundary of St. Marks' Primary School to and southwestward along the southern curtilage of No 417 Aurs Glen to and southwestward across a path to the eastern curtilage of No 410 Aurs Glen; then southeastward along the said curtilage to and southwestward along the rear curtilages of Nos 410-402 Aurs Glen to and southeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 119 and 121 Aurs Glen to and southwestward along the southern curtilage of No 121 Aurs Glen to and southwestward across a path to the eastern curtilage of No 102 Aurs Glen at NG Ref NS 5027 5798; then southwestward along the said curtilage to and southwestward along the rear curtilages of Nos 102-98 Aurs Glen to an unnamed stream at NG Ref NS 5022 5796; then generally southward along the said unnamed stream to where it is crossed by a path at NG Ref NS 5022 5789; then generally westward along the said path to the eastern boundary of EW 3 at NG Ref NS 4995 5799; then generally northward, westward and northward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 5 Barrhead East

Commencing at NG Ref NS 4979 5930 where the eastern boundary of EW 3 meets the southern boundary of EW 2; then northeastward along the said EW boundary to the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council at NG Ref NS 5126 6023; then generally southeastward, southwestward and southeastward along the said Council boundary to Aurs Road at NG Ref NS 5107 5870; then northwestward along the said road to and southwestward along Aurs Drive to the eastern boundary of EW 4 at NG Ref NS 5066 5843; then generally northward and westward along the said EW boundary to and northward along the eastern boundary of EW 3 to the point of commencement.

Ward 6 Auchenback

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5107 5870 where the southern boundary of EW 5 meets the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council; then southeastward and eastward along the said Council boundary to the former council boundary of Eastwood District on the Brock Burn at NG Ref NS 5212 5820; then generally southward and westward along the said former council boundary to the northern boundary of EW 1 at NG Ref NS 5043 5721; then westward along the said EW boundary to and generally northward along the eastern boundary of EW 3 to the southern boundary of EW 4 at NG Ref NS 4995 5799; then generally southeastward and northeastward along the said EW boundary to and northeastward and southeastward along the southern boundary of EW 5 to the point of commencement.

Ward 7 Greenfarm

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5212 5820 where the eastern boundary of EW 6 meets the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council; then generally eastward along the said Council boundary to the B769 road at NG Ref NS 5380 5797; then southwestward and southward along the said road to and generally southeastward along Crookfur Road to its junction with Greenlaw Road at NG Ref NS 5343 5639; then generally southward and southeastward along the said road to and generally southwestward, northwestward and southwestward along Capelrig Road to its junction with Barrhead Road at NG Ref NS 5347 5576; then northwestward along the said road to a point in line with a field boundary at NG Ref NS 5310 5590; then southwestward to and along the said field boundary to a field boundary at NG Ref NS 5287 5569; then southeastward along the said field boundary to Netherplace Road at NG Ref NS 5299 5556; then generally southwestward along the said road to and continuing southwestward and westward along Malletsheugh Road to its junction with the B769 road at NG Ref NS 5109 5503; then generally southwestward along the said road to the southern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council at NG Ref NS 4803 5094; then northwestward along the said Council boundary to the former council boundary of Eastwood District at NG Ref NS 4695 5176; then generally northeastward, northwestward and northeastward along the said former council boundary to the point of commencement.

**Ward 8
Thornliebank**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5380 5797 where the eastern boundary of EW 7 meets the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council; then generally northeastward, northwestward, eastward, northeastward and southeastward along the said Council boundary to NG Ref NS 5560 5971; then southward in a straight line to where Robslee Drive is crossed by the Glasgow/East Kilbride Railway Line at NG Ref NS 5560 5970; then southeastward along the said railway line to a point in line with the eastern boundary of Giffnock Business Park at NG Ref NS 5577 5967; then southward to and southeastward and southwestward along the said boundary to a point on the rear curtilage of No 10 Orchard Grove at NG Ref NS 5573 5957; then southwestward, southward, eastward and southward along the rear curtilages of Nos 10-3 Orchard Grove to and continuing southward along the rear curtilages of Nos 7-3 Clifton Road to the rear curtilage of No 62 Ravenscliffe Drive at NG Ref NS 5574 5944; then northwestward, southwestward, southeastward and southwestward along the rear curtilages of Nos 62-90 Ravenscliffe Drive to and southwestward and southward along the rear and western curtilages of No 80 Orchard Park Avenue to Orchard Park Avenue at NG Ref NS 5562 5937; then southeastward along the said avenue to and westward along Orchard Drive to a point in line with the rear curtilages of Nos 1-29 Glenville Avenue at NG Ref NS 5591 5924; then southwestward to and along the said curtilages to and northwestward along the southern curtilages of Nos 29 and 28 Glenville Avenue to and northwestward along the rear curtilage of No 47 Orchard Drive to the rear curtilage of No 41 Orchard Drive at NG Ref NS 5578 5916; then southwestward along the rear curtilages of Nos 41 and 43 Orchard Drive to Orchard Drive at NG Ref NS 5576 5913; then generally southwestward along the said drive to a point in line with the rear curtilages of Nos 17-1 Arden Drive at NG Ref NS 5576 5913; then southwestward to and along the said curtilages to a path at NG Ref NS 5565 5897; then northwestward along the said path to and northeastward, northwestward and southwestward along the eastern, northern and southern curtilages of a Pavilion to the western boundary of Eastwood Park at NG Ref NS 5557 5897; then generally southwestward along the said boundary of the said park to Rouken Glen Road at NG Ref NS 5532 5844; then northwestward along the said road to and generally southwestward and southeastward

along Davieland Road to its junction with Ayr Road at NG Ref NS 5534 5768; then southwestward along the said road to where it is crossed by the Glasgow/Neilston Railway Line at NG Ref NS 5533 5765; then generally westward along the said railway line to the eastern boundary of EW 7 at NG Ref NS 5354 5766; then northeastward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

**Ward 9
Giffnock North**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5560 5971 on the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council; then northward and southeastward along the said Council boundary to Burnfield Road at NG Ref NS 5603 5976; then southward along the said road to where it is crossed by the Glasgow/East Kilbride Railway Line at NG Ref NS 5601 5962; then southeastward along the said railway line to a point in line with a path leading to Forres Avenue at NG Ref NS 5637 5911; then southeastward to and along the said path to and southward across Forres Avenue to a point in line with the southern curtilage of No 63 Forres Avenue at NG Ref NS 5640 5910; then southeastward to and along the said curtilage to and continuing southeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 38-2 Eastwood Avenue to and southeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 13-9 Huntly Avenue to and southeastward across Church Road to the rear curtilage of No 1 Bulloch Avenue at NG Ref NS 5664 5881; then southeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 1-27 Bulloch Avenue to and southeastward along the rear curtilages of Nos 84-56 Evan Drive to and southeastward and southward along the rear curtilages of Nos 2-36 Evan Crescent to the southern curtilage of No 36 Evan Crescent at NG Ref NS 5703 5854; then southeastward in a straight line to and southwestward along the Glasgow/Neilston Railway Line to where it crosses Eastwoodmains Road at NG Ref NS 5662 5807; then northwestward and westward along the said road to and northeastward along Otterburn Road to its junction with Seyton Avenue at NG Ref NS 5621 5832; then generally westward along the said avenue to and generally southwestward, westward and southward along Fenwick Road to a roundabout junction with Rouken Glen Road at Eastwood Toll, NG Ref NS 5580 5829; then northwestward along the said road to the eastern boundary of EW 8 at NG Ref NS 5532 5844; then generally northward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 10 Merrylea Park

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5603 5976 where the eastern boundary of EW 9 meets the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council; then generally northeastward and southeastward along the said Council boundary to where it is crossed by the Glasgow/Neilston Railway Line at NG Ref NS 5754 5967; then southwestward along the said railway line to the eastern boundary of EW 9 at NG Ref NS 5704 5852; then generally northwestward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 11 Netherlee

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5754 5967 where the eastern boundary of EW 10 meets the northern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council; then generally southeastward, northeastward, southeastward, southwestward, northeastward and southeastward along the said Council boundary to NG Ref NS 5829 5822; then westward in a straight line to and southwestward and westward along the southern curtilage of No 36 Netherview Road to Monteith Drive at NG Ref NS 5817 5822; then southward along the said drive to a point in line with the rear curtilages of Nos 96-84 Nethervale Avenue at NG Ref NS 5817 5821; then northwestward to and northwestward and westward along the said curtilages to and northwestward and westward along the rear curtilages of Nos 82-72 Nethervale Avenue to Randolph Drive at NG Ref NS 5801 5825; then generally northwestward, southwestward and westward along the said drive to and northward along Stamperland Hill to and westward along Nethervale Avenue to its junction with Clarkston Road at NG Ref NS 5760 5838; then southward along the said road to a point in line with the northern boundary of Williamwood Golf Course at NG Ref NS 5760 5838; then northwestward to and northwestward, northeastward and northwestward along the said boundary of the said golf course to the eastern boundary of EW 10 at NG Ref NS 5715 5866; then generally northward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 12 Crookfur

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5354 5766 where the eastern boundary of EW 7 meets the southern boundary of EW 8; then generally

eastward along the said EW boundary to Ayr Road at NG Ref NS 5533 5765; then generally southwestward along said road to and northwestward along Barrhead Road to the eastern boundary of EW 7 at NG Ref NS 5347 5576; then generally northeastward, northwestward and northeastward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 13 Giffnock South

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5532 5844 where the eastern boundary of EW 8 meets the southern boundary of EW 9; then generally southeastward along the said EW boundary to where the Glasgow/Neilston Railway Line crosses Eastwoodmains Road at NG Ref NS 5662 5807; then continuing southeastward along the said road to its junction with Golf Road at NG Ref NS 5703 5774; then southwestward along the said road to and northwestward along Seres Road to and southwestward along Burnside Gardens to its junction with Kilpatrick Gardens at NG Ref NS 5657 5734; then southwestward and southeastward along the said gardens to and southwestward along Mearns Road to a point in line with a field boundary at NG Ref NS 5598 5702; then northwestward to and along the said field boundary to and westward along a field boundary to an unnamed stream at NG Ref NS 5591 5710; then westward along the said unnamed stream to its confluence with an unnamed stream at NG Ref NS 5579 5711; then generally northwestward along the said unnamed stream to where it is crossed by the Glasgow/Neilston Railway Line at NG Ref NS 5542 5769; then southwestward along the said railway line to the eastern boundary of EW 8 at NG Ref NS 5533 5765; then generally northward and northeastward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 14 Stamperland

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5715 5866 where the eastern boundary of EW 10 meets the southern boundary of EW 11; then generally southeastward along the said EW boundary to the eastern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council at NG Ref NS 5828 5822; then generally southward, westward and southeastward along the said Council boundary to the confluence of the Kittoch Water and the White Cart Water at NG Ref NS 5806 5720; then generally southwestward and westward along the White Cart Water to where it is crossed by the Glasgow/East Kilbride Railway

Line at NG Ref NS 5788 5703; then northward along the said railway line to where it is crossed by Strawhill Road at NG Ref NS 5752 5737; then southwestward along the said road to and generally westward along Hillview Drive to its junction with Mearns Road at NG Ref NS 5663 5733; then southwestward along the said road to the southern boundary of EW 13 at NG Ref NS 5656 5727; then generally northeastward and northwestward along the said EW boundary to and northeastward along the eastern boundaries of EW 9 and EW 10 to the point of commencement.

Ward 15 Broom

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5533 5765 where the eastern boundary of EW 12 meets the southern boundary of EW 13; then northeastward and southeastward along the said EW boundary to Mearns Road at NG Ref NS 5598 5702; then southwestward along the said road to and southeastward along Broomburn Drive to and southwestward, northwestward and southwestward along Broomfield Avenue to a point in line with the southern curtilage of No 70 Broomfield Avenue at NG Ref NS 5459 5533; then southwestward to and along the said curtilage to and northward along the rear curtilage of No 70 Broomfield Avenue to and northwestward along the northern curtilages of Nos 361 and 359 Mearns Road to Mearns Road at NG Ref NS 5452 5535; then southwestward along the said road to and northwestward along Eaglesham Road to the eastern boundary of EW 12 at NG Ref NS 5369 5565; then northeastward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 16 Kirkhill

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5598 5702 on the eastern boundary of EW 15 at its junction with High Flender Road and Mearns Road; then southeastward along High Flender Road to its junction with an unnamed road at NG Ref NS 5657 5616; then southwestward along the said unnamed road to an unnamed road at NG Ref NS 5616 5552; then northwestward along the said unnamed road to a track at NG Ref NS 5615 5554; then generally southwestward along the said track, passing to the north of a property known as Barrance, to its junction with Waterfoot Road at NG Ref NS 5577 5534; then generally westward and southwestward along the said road to a point in line with a path leading to Castleton Grove at NG Ref NS 5493

5498; then northward to and along the said path to a path leading to Broomfield Avenue at NG Ref NS 5493 5504; then westward along the said path to and generally northwestward along Broomfield Avenue to the eastern boundary of EW 15 at NG Ref NS 5459 5533; then generally northeastward, northwestward and northeastward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 17 Clarkston

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5598 5702 where the eastern boundary of EW 16 meets the southern boundary of EW 13; then generally northeastward along the said EW boundary to and generally eastward along the southern boundary of EW 14 to its junction with Hillview Road and Mayfield Avenue at NG Ref NS 5716 5729; then generally southward along the said avenue to and generally southeastward along Greenwood Road to its junction with Eaglesham Road at NG Ref NS 5742 5696; then southwestward along the said road to and southeastward along Waterfoot Road to the eastern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council at NG Ref NS 5695 5526; then generally southward along the said Council boundary to a point in line with the rear curtilages of Nos 11-1 Windyhill Park at NG Ref NS 5707 5460; then southwestward to and along the said curtilages to and across Glasgow Road to and southwestward along Floors Road to its junction with Humble Road at NG Ref NS 5558 5374; then northwestward and northeastward along the said road to its junction with an unnamed road at NG Ref NS 5492 5442; then generally northeastward, northwestward and northward along the said unnamed road to the southern boundary of EW 16 at NG Ref NS 5525 5509; then generally northeastward and northwestward along the said EW boundary to the point of commencement.

Ward 18 Busby

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5716 5729 where the eastern boundary of EW 17 meets the southern boundary of EW 14; then generally northeastward, southeastward and northeastward along the said EW boundary to and generally eastward, southward and westward along the eastern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council to and northwestward, northeastward and northwestward along the eastern boundary of EW 17 to the point of commencement.

**Ward 19
Mearns**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5347 5576 where the southern boundary of EW 7 meets the southern boundary of EW 12; then generally southeastward and northeastward along the said EW boundary to and generally southeastward and northeastward along the southern boundary of EW 15 to the southern boundary of EW 16; then generally southeastward along the said EW boundary to and generally southwestward along western boundary of EW 17 to where Humbie Road crosses the Earn Water at Humbie Bridge, NG Ref NS 5493 5437; then generally southwestward along the said water to the southern boundary of East Renfrewshire Council at NG Ref NS 5033 5030; then generally southwestward and northwestward along the said Council boundary to and generally northeastward along the southern boundary of EW 7 to the point of commencement.

**Ward 20
Eaglesham**

Commencing at NG Ref NS 5493 5437 where the eastern boundary of EW 19 meets the southern boundary of EW 17; then generally southeastward and northeastward along the said EW boundary to and generally southeastward, southward, southwestward and northwestward along the eastern and southern boundaries of East Renfrewshire Council to and generally northeastward along the eastern boundary of EW 19 to the point of commencement.