

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL14 December 2016Report by Deputy Chief ExecutiveINTERIM REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To seek approval of the amended polling scheme for the East Renfrewshire area.

**RECOMMENDATION**

2. That the Council approve the new polling scheme.

**BACKGROUND**

3. In terms of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended) local authorities are required to divide their area into polling districts for the purposes of parliamentary elections and to designate polling places for these polling districts and keep them under review.

4. The Electoral Administration Act 2006 further amended the Representation of the People Act 1983 by introducing a statutory duty for all polling districts and polling places for the purposes of parliamentary elections to be reviewed by the end of 2007 and at least every four years thereafter.

5. The scheme was reviewed in 2010 at which time there was some slight change to a small number of polling districts to reflect the changed Scottish Parliament constituency boundaries.

6. Subsequently the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced new provisions which required councils to conduct a review of their polling scheme (that is the current polling districts and polling places) at any time in the period of 16 months beginning 1 October 2013 and within the 16 month period every 5 years thereafter. At the meeting of the Council on 13 February 2014 a new polling scheme was approved and delegated authority granted to the Chief Executive to alter or amend any polling place should it become unavailable or unviable for example due to fire or flood.

**REPORT**

7. The next statutory review of the polling scheme is due to take place in 2018. However in light of Scottish Ministers' decision to implement the recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland and reduce the number of electoral wards from 6 to 5 prior to the local government elections in May 2017, it has been necessary for an interim review to be carried out. The purpose of this review has been to ensure that individual polling districts in their entirety lie within a single electoral ward, and to realign ward and polling district boundaries where necessary.

8. The table below provides details of the changes that have been made and offers some commentary in each case. Members will see from the table that there have been a number of polling districts that have been unaffected. However, whilst every effort has been made to keep the numbers at a minimum, as a result of the ward boundary changes it will be necessary for some voters to go to a different polling place.

10. Discussions have taken place with the Electoral Registration Officer about the production of the new electoral register based on the new ward boundaries/polling districts and the identification of those electors who will require to vote at a different polling place. Notwithstanding that poll cards issued to voters include details of their polling place, following receipt of this information from the ERO discussions will take place about cost-effective methods of alerting affected voters to the change in their polling place.

<b>NEW POLLING DISTRICT</b>	<b>FORMER POLLING DISTRICT(S)</b>	<b>Description of changes (Referencing OLD Number)</b>
<b>ES01</b>	ES01	WARD 1 - The polling district boundary has been extended to take in an extra field at Cowdenmill to match the ward boundary. No voters have been affected as a result of this alteration
<b>ES02</b>	ES02/ES03/ES04	WARD 1 – Those parts of the 2 former polling districts ES02 and ES03 remaining in the new ward have been combined to create a single polling district extended into former ES04 to the south east to include Gateside Village, and to the south to align with the new ward boundary along Lochlibo Road. As a result all voters in Gateside Village, and voters to the north of Lochlibo Road who previously voted at Neilston Primary School will in future vote at Cross Arthurlie Primary School.
<b>ES03</b>	ES04	WARD 1 - The western boundary of the polling district has been realigned to move all of Gateside Village into the new ES02 polling district. Whilst all voters in Gateside Village will in future vote at Cross Arthurlie Primary School, remaining voters will continue to vote at Dalmeny Community Centre.
<b>ES04</b>	ES05	WARD 1 - NO CHANGE
<b>ES05</b>	ES06	WARD 1 - NO CHANGE
<b>ES06</b>	ES07	WARD 1 - NO CHANGE
<b>ES07</b>	ES02	WARD 2 – The polling district northern boundary has been moved southwards to align with the new ward boundary which follows Lochlibo Road. As a result those voters to the north of Lochlibo Road who previously voted at Neilston Primary School will in future vote at Cross Arthurlie Primary School.

NEW POLLING DISTRICT	FORMER POLLING DISTRICT(S)	Description of changes (Referencing OLD Number)
EE01	EE01/EE14	WARD 2 – The size of the polling district has been reduced by the removal of the Westacres area (south of Barrhead Road) which now lies within a different ward (Ward 5). The polling district has also been extended to the east to align with the ward boundary (M77). As a result of the realignment of the ward and polling district boundaries, a number of voters who would have voted previously at Mearns Kirk Church Hall (EE14) will require to vote at St Cadoc's Primary School.
EE02	EE02/EE05	WARD 2 – The polling district has been extended north-eastwards to align with the new ward boundary and to include the current properties at Patterton Roundabout and the land up to the southern edge of Deaconsbank Golf Course (formerly Ward 3 - EE05)
EE03	EE04	WARD 3 - NO CHANGE
EE04	EE06	WARD 3 - NO CHANGE
EE05	EE07	WARD 3 - NO CHANGE
EE06	EE05	WARD 3 – The polling district boundary to the south has altered to reflect the realignment of the ward boundary and the removal of the area south of Deaconsbank Golf Course (Now Ward 2)
EE07	EE10/EE11	WARD 3 – The polling district has been extended to the south east to align with the new ward boundary which runs along the railway line (formerly Ward 4 - EE11).
EE08	EE08	WARD 4 NO CHANGE
EE09	EE09/EE18	WARD 4 – The polling district has been extended to include the area north of Hillview Drive (formerly Ward 6 - EE18)
EE10	EE11/EE12	WARD 4 – The polling district boundary has been extended to the west to include Cathcart Castle Golf Course (formerly Ward 5 – EE12)
EE11	EE16	WARD 4 – The polling district boundary has been realigned to follow the new ward boundary, resulting in the removal of the area south of High Flenders Road (Waterfoot). Consequently, voters in Waterfoot who previously voted at Carolside Primary School will in future vote at Kirkhill Primary School.
EE12	EE15	WARD 4 – The polling district boundary has been realigned north of Waterfoot to follow the new ward boundary resulting in the transfer of a small area (formerly Ward 6 – EE 15)

NEW POLLING DISTRICT	FORMER POLLING DISTRICT(S)	Description of changes (Referencing OLD Number)
EE13	EE03/EE01	WARD 5 – The polling district has been extended to include Westacres as a result of the changes to ward boundaries (formerly Ward 1 - EE01) As a result of the realignment of the ward and polling district boundaries, a number of voters who would have voted previously at St Cadoc’s Primary School will in future vote at Fairweather Hall. To accommodate the additional voters, an polling station will be located in the hall.
EE14	EE12	WARD 5 – The polling district has been reduced in size at the north east corner by the removal of Cathcart Castle Golf Course
EE15	EE13/EE15/EE16	WARD 5 – The polling district boundary has been realigned so that the polling district now takes in those voters in the northern part of Waterfoot (EE15/EE16) who formerly voted in Carolside Primary School, which now lies within a different ward. Affected voters will in future vote at Kirkhill Primary School.
EE16	EE14	WARD 5 – The polling district has been reduced in size with the realignment of the new western ward boundary which follows the M77.
EE17	EE17	WARD 5 – Whilst the polling district boundary between EE15 an EE17 has been realigned, those electors in Waterfoot who vote at Eaglesham Primary School will be unaffected.
	EE18	This polling district in no longer required which was created to allow voters to vote at Clarkston Hall. These voters are now part of the ward/polling district which votes at Clarkston Hall as a matter of course.

11. Copies of maps showing the new wards and associated polling districts are attached as appendices. A large scale high-resolution map has been made available in the Members’ Lounge and can be viewed online [here](#)

## FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

12. The cost of carrying out the review has related to officer time and has been met from existing resources.

## CONSULTATION

13. Due to the nature of the review, consultation has not taken place. However full consultation will take place as part of the next statutory review. A number of concerns have been expressed about the continuing use of schools as polling places and the identification and use of potential alternatives will be considered as part of the statutory review.

**IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

13. Failure to carry out the interim review would have resulted in some cross-boundary issues with some voters having to attend polling places outwith their allocated polling district/ward. The legislation states that polling places lying outwith polling district boundaries should only happen in extraordinary circumstances and the interim review has regularised the position.

**CONCLUSIONS**

14. The Council is not required to conduct a statutory review of polling places and polling districts until October 2018. However an interim review has been necessary as a result of the reduction in electoral wards from 6 to 5.

**RECOMMENDATION**

15. That the Council approve the new polling scheme.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

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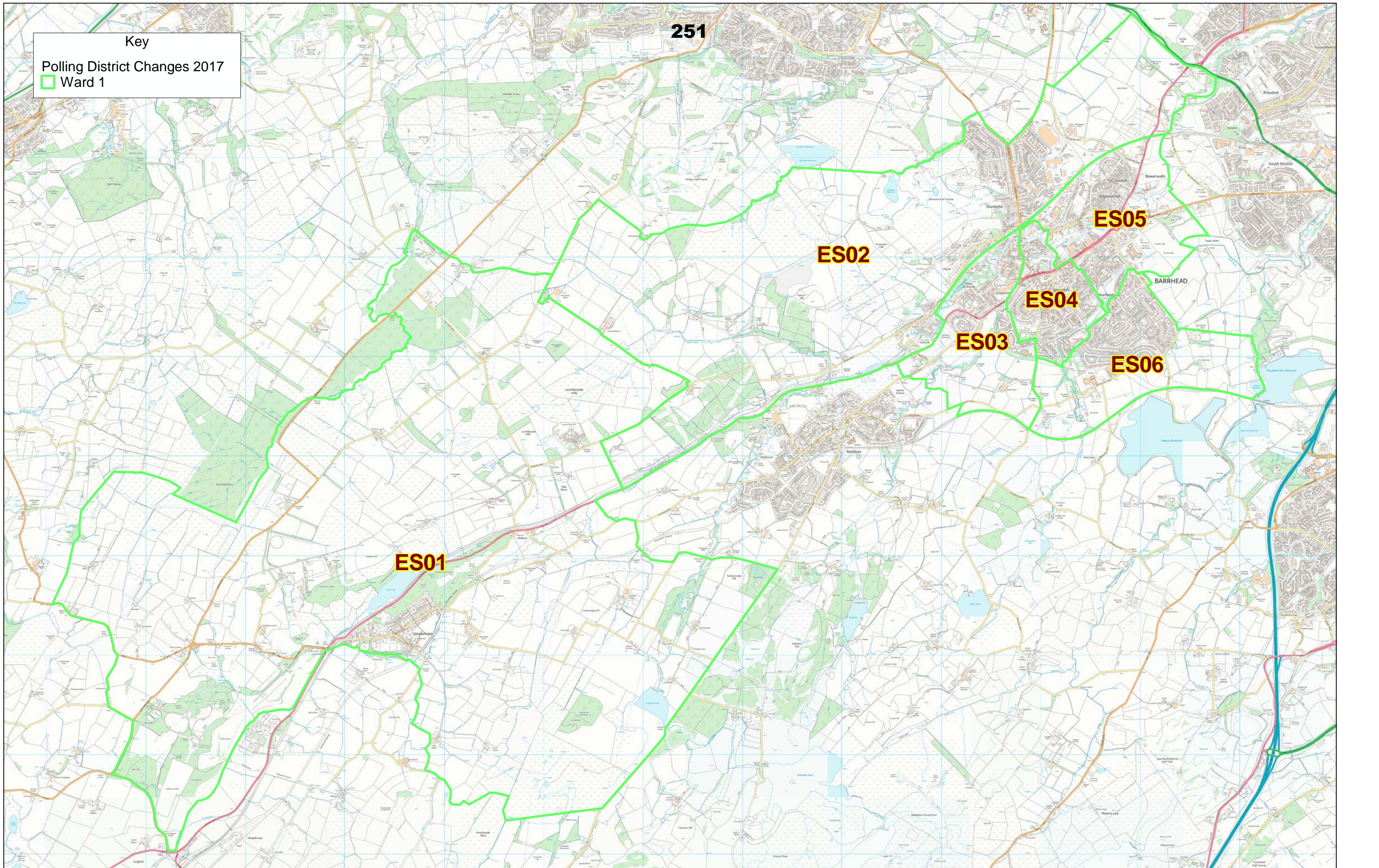
## Appendix 1 – Proposed Polling Scheme

<b>Polling District Ref.No.</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>	<b>No. of Stations</b>
ES01	Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor	Mure Hall Uplawmoor G78 4AD	1
ES02	Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor	Cross Arthurlie P.S. Fern Drive Barrhead G78 1JF	4
ES03	Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor	Dalmeny Community Centre Barnes Street Barrhead G78 1EH	2
ES04	Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor	St Andrew's Parish Church Ralston Road Barrhead G78 2QQ	3
ES05	Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor	Carlibar P.S. Carlibar Road Barrhead G78 1BD	3
ES06	Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor	Auchenback Resource Centre 64 Aurs Drive Barrhead G78 2LW	3
ES07	Newton Mearns North and Neilston	Neilston P.S. 43 High Street Neilston G78 3HJ	5
EE01	Newton Mearns North and Neilston	St. Cadoc's P.S. Crookfur Road Newton Mearns G77 6TT	4
EE02	Newton Mearns North and Neilston	Crookfur P.S. Capelrig Road Newton Mearns G77 6LF	4
EE03	Giffnock and Thornliebank	Thornliebank P.S. Main Street Thornliebank G46 7RW	2
EE04	Giffnock and Thornliebank	Giffnock P.S. Academy Road Giffnock G46 6JL	5
EE05	Giffnock and Thornliebank	Braidbar P.S. Kyle Drive Giffnock G46 6ES	3
EE06	Giffnock and Thornliebank	OLM P.S. Robslee Road Thornliebank G46 7DD	2
EE07	Giffnock and Thornliebank	Carmichael Hall Eastwood Park Giffnock G46 7JS	2

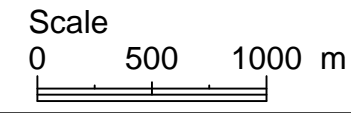
<b>Polling District Ref.No.</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>	<b>No. of Stations</b>
EE08	Clarkston, Netherlee and Williamwood	Netherlee P.S. Clarkston Road Netherlee G44 3SF	4
EE09	Clarkston, Netherlee and Williamwood	Clarkston Hall Clarkston Toll Clarkston G76 8NE	5
EE10	Clarkston, Netherlee and Williamwood	Williamwood Parish Church Seres Road Clarkston G76 7QP	3
EE11	Clarkston, Netherlee and Williamwood	Carolside P.S. Ashfield Road Clarkston G76 7TX	4
EE12	Clarkston, Netherlee and Williamwood	Busby P.S. Church Road Busby G76 8EB	4
EE13	Newton Mearns South and Eaglesham	Fairweather Hall Barrhead Road Newton Mearns G77 6BB	3
EE14	Newton Mearns South and Eaglesham	Crookfur Pavilion Ayr Road Newton Mearns G77 6DR	4
EE15	Newton Mearns South and Eaglesham	Kirkhill P.S. Kirkhill Road Newton Mearns G77 5RJ	4
EE16	Newton Mearns South and Eaglesham	Mearns Kirk Church Hall Eaglesham Road Newton Mearns G77 5DE	3
EE17	Newton Mearns South and Eaglesham	Eaglesham P.S. Strathaven Road Eaglesham G76 0LF	4



**Key**  
 Polling District Changes 2017  
 □ Ward 1



**Ward 1 Polling Districts  
 Location Plan**



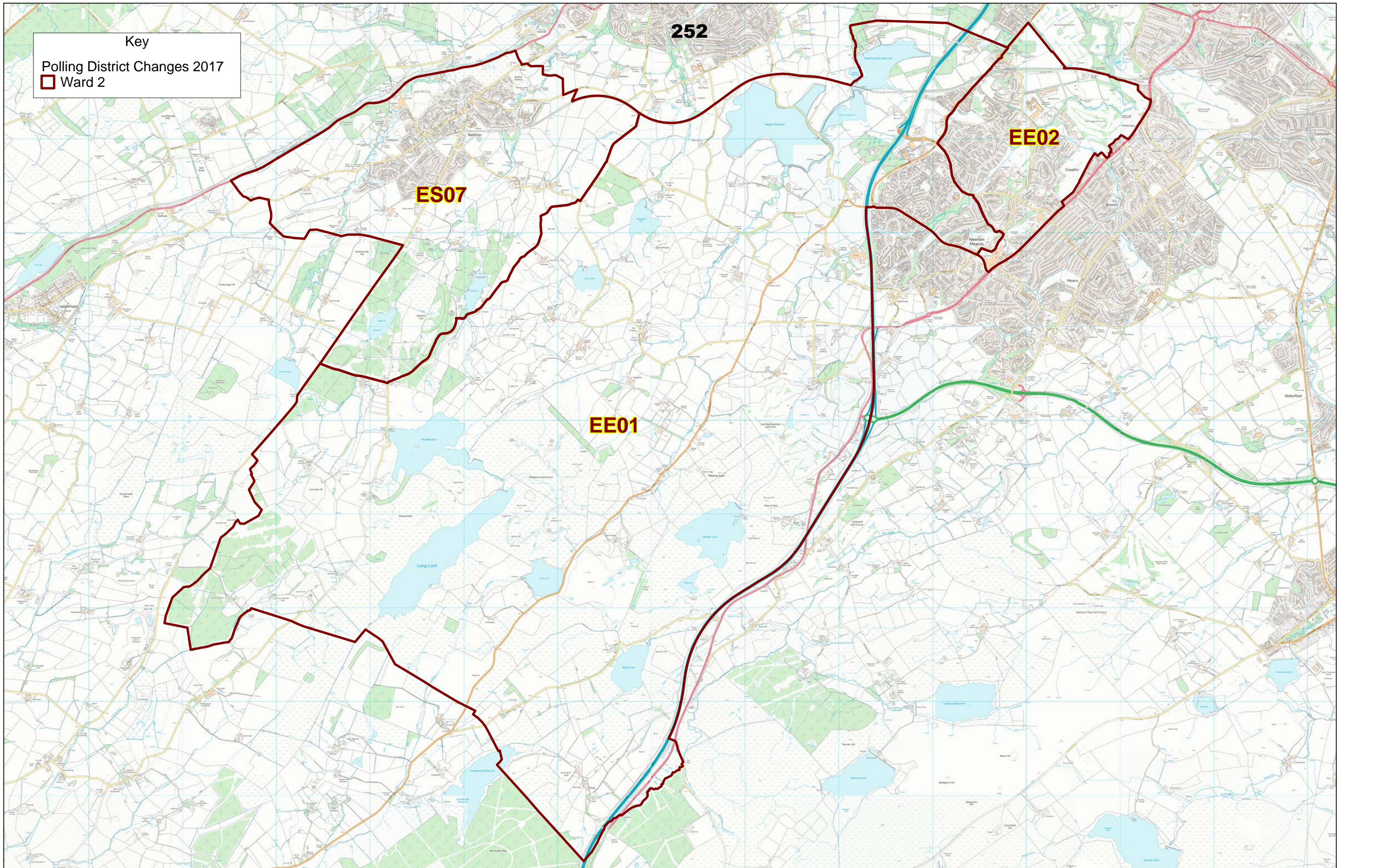
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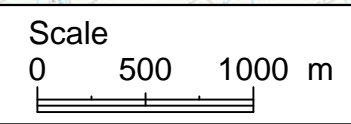
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Key  
Polling District Changes 2017  
Ward 2



Ward 2 Polling Districts  
Location Plan



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Map: NS5053



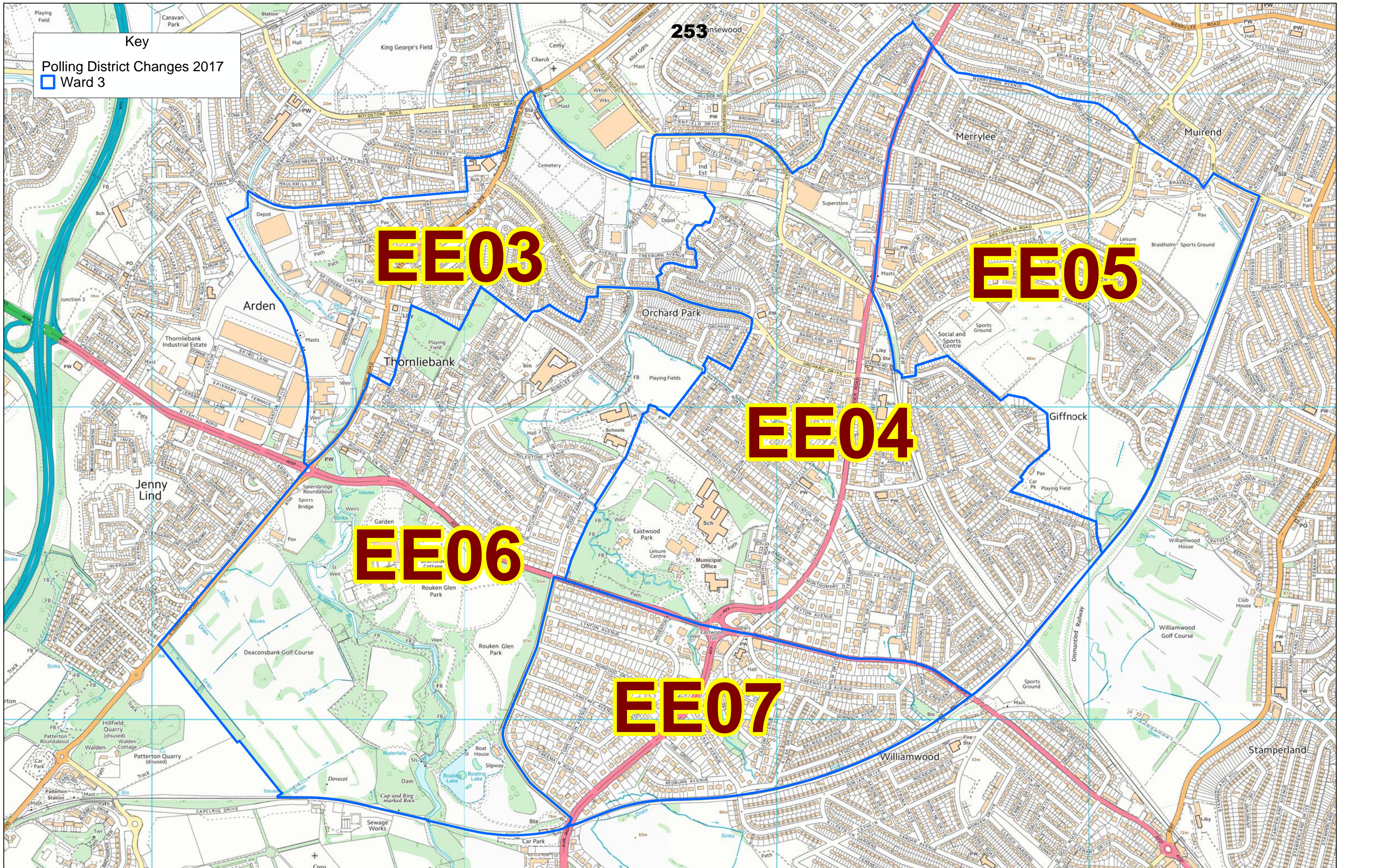
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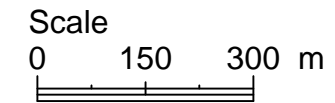
**Key**

Polling District Changes 2017

Ward 3



**Ward 3 Polling Districts**  
**Location Plan**



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**Key**  
**Polling District Changes 2017**  
 **Ward 4**

**254**

**EE08**

**EE09**

**EE10**

**EE11**

**EE12**



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**Ward 4 Polling Districts**  
 Location Plan

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**Key**  
Polling District Changes 2017  
Ward 5

255

EE14

EE13

EE15

EE16

EE17



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**Ward 5 Polling Districts**

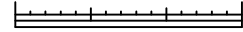
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