

**South Ayrshire Council**

**Report by Chief Executive  
to South Ayrshire Council  
of 12 October 2023**

**Subject: Results of Local Government By-Election 2023 – Ward 8: Girvan and South Carrick**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the outcome of the recent By-Election in Ward 8 - Girvan and South Carrick.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1 **It is recommended that the Council notes the outcome of the By-Election for Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick and the election of Alan Lamont as Councillor for this electoral ward.**

**3. Background**

3.1 Following the retiral of Councillor Peter Henderson, a By-Election was held in Electoral Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick on 21 September 2023.

3.2 Five candidates stood in the election, with polling being conducted using the Single Transferable Vote System.

**4. Proposals**

4.1 The result of the By-Election was as follows:

| <b><i>Candidate</i></b> | <b><i>First Preference</i></b> | <b><i>Elected at Stage</i></b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| LAMONT, Alan            | 1,315                          | 4                              |
| McLAUGHLIN, Joseph      | 778                            |                                |
| ROSS, Jamie             | 108                            |                                |
| SAXTON, Nicola          | 499                            |                                |
| SOMMERVILLE, Denise     | 70                             |                                |

4.2 More detailed information is available on the Council's [website](#).

- 4.3 Alan Lamont (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party) was elected as Councillor to fill the Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick vacancy.
- 4.4 With the election of Alan Lamont, the political balance of the Council is now as follows:

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party | 11 |
| Scottish Labour Party                    | 5  |
| Scottish National Party (SNP)            | 8  |
| Independent                              | 4  |

## 5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

## 6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Not applicable.

## 7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1 Not applicable.

## 8. Risk

### 8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

- 8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

### 8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

- 8.2.1 There are no risks associated with rejecting the recommendations.

## 9. Equalities

- 9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping process. There are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as [Appendix 1](#).

## 10. Sustainable Development Implications

- 10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

**11. Options Appraisal**

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

**12. Link to Council Plan**

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 4 of the Council Plan: Efficient and effective enabling services.

**13. Results of Consultation**

13.1 Not applicable.

**14. Next Steps for Decision Tracking Purposes**

14.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Members, the Chief Executive will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure full implementation of the decision within the following timescales, with the completion status reported to the Cabinet in the 'Council and Cabinet Decision Log' at each of its meetings until such time as the decision is fully implemented:

| <b>Implementation</b>                      | <b>Due date</b> | <b>Managed by</b> |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| Report for noting only – no further action | Not applicable  | Not applicable    |

**Background Papers**    **None**

**Person to Contact**    **Eileen Howat, Chief Executive**  
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**Date:**    **2 October 2023**

**South Ayrshire Council  
Equality Impact Assessment  
Scoping Template**

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx>

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-guide-public-authorities/>

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. [FSD Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/>

## 1. Policy details

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Policy Title                       | Results of Local Government By-Election 2023 – Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick |
| Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email) | Eileen Howat, Chief Executive – eileen.howat@south-ayrshire.gov.uk               |

**2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts**

| Community or Groups of People  | Negative Impacts | Positive impacts |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Age – men and women, girls & boys  | -                | -                |
| Disability   | -                | -                |
| Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)   | -                | -                |
| Marriage or Civil Partnership  | -                | -                |
| Pregnancy and Maternity  | -                | -                |
| Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers | -                | -                |
| Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)  | -                | -                |
| Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)                                   | -                | -                |

| Community or Groups of People   | Negative Impacts | Positive impacts |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Sexual Orientation – person’s sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight | -                | -                |
| Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children’s Rights   | -                | -                |

**3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.**

| Socio-Economic Disadvantage  | Negative Impacts | Positive impacts |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing   | -                | -                |
| Low and/or no wealth – enough money to meet Basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future                    | -                | -                |
| Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies | -                | -                |
| Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)   | -                | -                |
| Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parent’s education, employment and income  | -                | -                |

**4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:**

| General Duty and other Equality Themes<br>Consider the ‘Three Key Needs’ of the Equality Duty  | Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact<br>(High, Medium or Low) |
|--|---|
| <b>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation</b>   | Low   |
| <b>Advance equality of opportunity</b> between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not  | Low   |
| <b>Foster good relations</b> between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?) | Low   |
| Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life  | Low   |
| Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups   | Low   |
| Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups   | Low   |
| Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups   | Low   |

## 5. Summary Assessment

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required?</b><br>(A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as <b>Medium and/or High</b> )   | <del>YES</del><br><br><b>NO</b> |
| <b>Rationale for decision:</b><br><br><b>This report advises Members of the results of the Local Government By-Election 2023 – Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick. Their decision on this has no specific equality implications</b> |                                 |
| <b>Signed :</b> Eileen Howat <b>Head of Service</b><br><br><b>Date:</b> 26 September 2023  |                                 |