**Scottish Parliamentary Election - 6 May 2021**

**Ayr Constituency**

**Nominations**

As a result of the Covid 19 Pandemic, we are having to make some changes to our procedures. These changes are designed to ensure the health and safety of staff, candidates, agents and voters pre, during and post the Scottish Parliamentary Election. It is essential that we respect social distancing and hygiene measures and adhere to guidance and legislation.

**Nominations**

The period for Nominations begins on the 16th March 2021 and ends on the 31st March 2021 at 4.00p.m.

Nomination packs are available from the Electoral Commission [(link to packs)](https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-02/SP-Nomination-pack-constituency.doc) and can be obtained from the Office of the Constituency Returning Officer, Election Office, County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr KA7 1DR by appointment (telephone 01292 612192/612416) between the hours of 10am and 4pm on any working day during the Nomination period.

Once you have completed your Nomination paperwork, we can carry out an informal check electronically. We are happy to organise a skype or Teams call to discuss the forms once the check has been completed. All documentation should be scanned and emailed to: [election@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:election@south-ayrshire.gov.uk) for checking. We aim to finalise our informal checks within 24 hours and will feedback to your designated email address.

We would encourage you to take advantage of the informal electronic check, as this will minimise the time required to formally hand over your paperwork and staff contact.

The £500 deposit can be paid by legal tender or by means of a BACS transfer, debit or credit card, banker’s draft or by cash. Bank account details will be forwarded upon request, card payments can be made by telephoning (01292) 612192/612416.

**Please note that cheque and credit card payments need to be made at least 4 days before the deadline to enable the funds to clear and credit the Council’s bank account.**

**Formal Submission of Nominations Papers**

Once the informal checks have been completed and any issues addressed, Nomination papers must be formally submitted to the Constituency Returning Officer at the address above. Submission is by appointment only and you must contact the Election Office on the telephone numbers provided above. In light of Covid 19 guidance we strongly recommend that one person only per candidate attends the formal submission of Nomination papers.