

# WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL

## VACANCY IN WARD 4 - LIVINGSTON SOUTH

### CORONAVIRUS ACT 2020

### ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR

Due to a vacancy arising by a resignation, a by-election is to be held to elect one councillor to the Livingston South multi-member ward of West Lothian Council. The polling date previously fixed has changed.

The Returning Officer has determined that polling should take place on **Thursday 5 November 2020**.

The Returning Officer has made his determination in reliance on section 70 of the Coronavirus Act 2020 which allows an election to be fixed to take place on a date beyond the deadline fixed by section 37 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, and to be postponed once fixed. Before making his determination the Returning Officer consulted the Convener of the Electoral Management Board for Scotland, the Scottish Ministers and the Electoral Commission.

The Returning Officer has the power to substitute a fresh date or dates for polling to take place up to but not after 6 May 2021. He will keep his determination under review in light of developing and changing circumstances and will publish a further notice in the event that the polling date is to be changed.

The Notice of Election is expected to be published on Monday 28 September 2020. The period for nominations would then run from and include Tuesday 29 September 2020 until Monday 5 October 2020.

Voters may wish to consider applying for an absent vote which means voting by post or by proxy (someone voting for them).

For a polling date of 5 November 2020, the following deadlines apply for registration and voting:-

- Applications to be included on the register of voters must be made by midnight on Tuesday 20 October 2020
- Applications for new postal votes (including postal proxy votes) must be made by 5 pm on Wednesday 21 October 2020
- Applications for changes to existing postal or proxy votes must be made by 5 pm on Wednesday 21 October 2020
- Applications for new proxy votes (except for emergencies) must be made by 5 pm on Wednesday 28 October 2020

All these applications must be made to the Electoral Registration Officer at <https://www.lothian-vjb.gov.uk/electoral/>, or 17A South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9FL (0131 344 2500).

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Graham Hope  
Returning Officer

18 August 2020