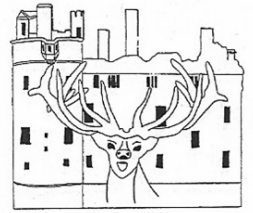




HUNTLY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Mrs Mary Burgerhout (Secretary)
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19 September 2011

Mr Allan Bell
Depute Returning Officer
Corporate Services – Legal and Governance
Aberdeenshire Council
Woodhill House
Westburn Road
ABERDEEN AB16 5GB

Dear Mr Bell

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

We refer to your letter of 29 August 2011 which was discussed at our Community Council meeting on 15 September.

There are currently two polling places in Huntly (the Stewart's Hall in Gordon Street and the Linden Centre in the School Avenue) and our members view was that Aberdeenshire Council be asked to consider reducing this to one. We have no strong views on which one would be best to retain. In addition to reducing costs, having just one polling place would alleviate the confusion that exists where for example people living in Gordon Street, who would expect their polling place to be the Stewart's Hall, find in fact that it is the Linden Centre, and there is evidence that some people have been put off making the additional journey to the Centre to vote.

We note that Turriff, which has a greater number of electors than Huntly, has just one polling place.

We hope you will take the above into consideration when conducting your review.

Yours sincerely

MARY BURGERHOUT
Secretary