

PLANNING etc (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2007

NOTICE OF BALLOT

PROPOSED RENEWAL OF BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR
CLARKSTON

This is to give notice that a ballot is to be held on the proposal of I Love Clarkston to renew the Business Improvement District (BID) for Clarkston.

The ballot will be conducted entirely by post on behalf of Lorraine McMillan, Returning Officer, East Renfrewshire Council, by the independent scrutineer, **Civica Election Services (CES) of 33 Clarendon Road, London, N8 0NW**. Ballot papers will be sent to those eligible to vote by no later than **Thursday 4 February 2021** for return to them by no later than **5pm on Thursday 18 March 2021** (the "day of the ballot").

Who can vote in the BID ballot?

Persons eligible to vote in the ballot will be the non-domestic ratepayer listed on the Council's database for each hereditament (business premise) situated in the geographical area of the proposed BID as at the date of this Notice. Each person entitled to vote in this ballot shall have one vote in respect of each hereditament occupied or (if unoccupied) owned by them in the geographical area of the BID.

Appointment of Proxy

Persons eligible to vote in the BID ballot may appoint someone else to vote on their behalf (for example, if you are going to be away at the time of the ballot). Applications to appoint a proxy must be submitted to CES at the above address no later than **5pm on Monday 8 March 2021**. An application for the appointment of a proxy must be made in writing and:

- (a) state the full name and address of the person whom the person entitled to vote (the applicant) wishes to appoint as a proxy;
- (b) state the address of the applicant's property or properties;
- (c) be signed by the applicant; and
- (d) contain a statement by the applicant that the proxy so named has been consulted and is capable and willing to be appointed.

Alternatively you can arrange for the ballot paper to be sent to someone else within your business/organisation so long as that person is located at either the address of the relevant property itself within the BID area, or at your principal place of business. You can do this by writing to CES at the address above with the name and address of the person to whom the ballot paper should be sent with details of their position in your business/organisation.

A proxy appointment may be cancelled by notifying CES at the above address no later than **Saturday 13 March 2021**.

Lost Ballot Papers

If a ballot paper has **not** been received by **Tuesday 9 March 2021** you may apply in writing to CES (address below), for a replacement paper by supplying one of the following:

- a) a letter in hardcopy form along with the appropriate “evidence of identity”
- b) a scan of both the letter and the “evidence of identity” attached to an email
- c) a fax copy of both the letter and the “evidence of identity”

The letter should be addressed to The Independent Scrutineer, The Election Centre, 33 Clarendon Road, London N8 0NW. Alternatively, you can email a scanned copy of the letter to **bids@cesvotes.com**. The letter must be signed by the Eligible Voter and evidence of the voter’s identity must be provided in the form of **one** of the following:

- a) Signed **letterhead** for the appropriate company
- b) A signed **photocopy** of the **National Non-Domestic Rating Bill** for the hereditament
- c) A signed **photocopy** of an item of personal ID such as a **Passport** or **Driving Licence**

Please do not send original ID or bills

Spoilt Ballot Papers

If you inadvertently spoil your ballot paper in such a manner that it cannot be conveniently used as a ballot paper, please return in to CES. On receipt of the spoilt paper CES will issue a replacement. Replacements for spoilt ballot papers can be issued up to 5pm on **Wednesday 17 March 2021** (the day prior to the day of the ballot).

Count of Ballot Papers

Ballot papers will be counted on **Friday 19 March 2021** and the result of the ballot will be announced as soon as possible thereafter.

Rejected Ballot Papers

If a ballot paper is duplicated and two are returned bearing the same number or barcode both will be void and not counted. Any ballot papers that are returned unsigned, unmarked or that are void for uncertainty will also be void and not counted.

Declaring the result

The ballot holder shall certify:

- a) the total number of votes cast in the ballot excluding any votes given on ballot papers rejected under the conditions above;
- b) the aggregate rateable value of each relevant property in respect of which a person voted in the ballot;
- c) the total number of votes cast in favour of the question asked in the ballot;
- d) the total number of votes cast against the question asked in the ballot;
- e) the aggregate rateable value of each relevant property in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted in favour of the question asked;
- f) the aggregate rateable value of each relevant property in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted against the question asked.

For a BID ballot to be successful:

- a) the number of votes cast in favour of the question asked must exceed the number of votes against the question asked
- b) the aggregate of the rateable values of the premises in respect of votes in favour of the question asked exceed the aggregate of the rateable values of the premises in respect of votes against the question asked
- c) the ballot turnout must be at least 25% of the total number of people eligible to vote
- d) the aggregate of the rateable values of the premises heritages in respect of votes for the question asked **plus** the aggregate of the rateable values of the premises heritages in respect of votes against the question asked **is equal to at least 25%** of the aggregate of the rateable values of all premises in respect of which a person is entitled to vote in the ballot.

Further Information

The BID arrangements and proposals are described in detail in the BID business plan. This will be issued to you along with your ballot paper. In the meantime if you require further information on the BID contact Andy Dunlop, BID Renewal Manager| 07773 557203 andy@erbids.com.

For further information on the ballot contact Civica Election Services at 33 Clarendon Road, London, N8 0NW Tel No.020 8365 8909.

A copy of this notice has been sent to Scottish Ministers.

Lorraine McMillan
Returning Officer
East Renfrewshire Council
Eastwood Park
Giffnock G46 6UG

14 January 2021