NOTICE OF ELECTION

Armadale & Blackridge Ward (Ward 9) West Lothian Council Election of Councillor – Thursday 22 August 2024

One councillor is to be elected for the Armadale and Blackridge Ward (Ward 9) of West Lothian Council.

Nominations

Nomination papers and other forms may be downloaded from the <u>council's website</u> or the <u>Electoral Commission's website</u>. Should that not be possible they can be obtained from the Election Office.

The Election Office is open for the issue and delivery of nomination papers between 10 am and 4 pm from **Monday 15 July 2024 until Friday 19 July 2024**, both inclusive. A prior appointment is preferred. The Returning Officer will on request prepare a nomination paper for signature.

Completed nomination papers and home address forms **must** be **delivered**, not posted or emailed, to the Election Office by **4 pm** on **Friday 19 July 2024.**

If the election is contested then voting will take place between 7 am and 10 pm on Thursday 22 August 2024.

Registration to vote

Applications to register to vote **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer on or before **midnight** on **Tuesday 6 August 2024**. Applications can be made <u>online</u>. The minimum age for voting at this election is 16 years old on 22 August 2024.

Electors do not require photographic ID to vote in this election.

Electors may apply for a postal or proxy vote. Proxy voting means someone else voting on their behalf. For advice on eligibility, registration, postal or proxy voting, contact the Electoral Registration Officer.

Postal voting

Applications to vote by post at this election **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Wednesday 7 August 2024.** Applications to amend or cancel existing postal vote arrangements **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Wednesday 7 August 2024.** Electors who consider they already have a postal vote should check with the Electoral Registration Officer that they have one for this election. Electors who may be away from home between 7 August 2024 and polling day may wish to consider appointing a proxy.

The issue of postal ballot papers will commence around 12 August 2024. They will be issued by first class post (except where a postal voter applies in person for a replacement for a spoilt or lost postal ballot paper). Delivery dates cannot be guaranteed.

Electors given a postal vote will not be able to vote in person. However, postal ballot papers may be returned before 10 pm on Thursday 22 August 2022 by post or hand delivery to the Election Office, or by hand delivery to any polling station in use for this by election. No additional form is required to do so for this election. Electors given a proxy vote will not be able to appoint a proxy after 5 pm on Wednesday 7 August 2024.

Proxy voting

Applications to vote by proxy at this election **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Wednesday 14 August 2024**. Applications to amend or cancel existing proxy arrangements **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Wednesday 7 August 2024**.

After the deadline for applications for proxy votes, electors entitled to vote in person but who cannot attend the polling station to vote in person may apply for an emergency proxy vote. Applications to vote by emergency proxy **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **22 August 2024**. The reason for being unable to vote in person or apply earlier must have arisen or have come to the elector's knowledge after 5 pm on Wednesday 14 August 2024.

Electors given a proxy vote may still vote in person but only if their proxy has not already voted or obtained a postal vote for them.

Notes

The Election Office is the Emergency Planning Room in the West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 6FF, 01506 282035 (elections@westlothian.gov.uk). Other rooms may be used as required.

The <u>Electoral Registration Officer</u> is at 17A South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 9FL, 0131 344 2500 (<u>enquiries@lothian-vjb.gov.uk</u>).

The rules about completing and delivering nomination papers and home address and other forms are in the Scottish Local Government Elections Order 2011 (as amended).

Voters, candidates and their agents are asked to bear in mind that postal delivery dates cannot be guaranteed.

Every person guilty of a corrupt or illegal practice will, on conviction, be liable to the penalties imposed by the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended).

Graham Hope Returning Officer

12 July 2024