NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY ELECTION OF

COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS FOR

CASTLE DOUGLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Elections are to be held for the return of **9** Community Councilors who will join the above-named Community Council from 8am on the day after the proposed day of Poll.

Nomination papers may be obtained from the Returning Officer at the contact details below. Nomination papers, duly completed and signed, must be delivered by email, either scanned or picture copy, within 21 calendar days of the date of this Notice to the Returning Officer, at the undernoted email address and no later than **5pm on Tuesday 8th April 2025.**

Candidates for election may withdraw their nomination but only if they advise their withdrawal in writing to the Returning Officer no later than 5pm on the closing date for nominations.

A ballot box election will be held on **Tuesday 29th April 2025** if more than **9** persons remain validly nominated after the period for nominations has expired. Those entitled to stand for election, or to propose a nomination, are those whose names appear in the appropriate Electoral Registers as being eligible to vote in local government elections on the date of the Community Council election.

The Scottish Elections (Reduction in Voting Age) Bill introduced in Spring 2016 allows for 16-year-olds to vote at Local Government and Scottish Parliament and they will therefore be included in the electoral register for those elections. Consequently, as Community Council elections are held on the Local Government franchise this new ruling will now apply to all future Community Council elections.

The public should note that in the event of a poll, voting at this election will be confined to those members of the electorate who attend the poll in person. There will be no postal or proxy voting.

If less than 9persons remain validly nominated, then such persons will be declared to be duly elected unopposed as at **8am on Wednesday 30th April 2025** and that this will be confirmed at the scheduled meeting of the Community Council to be held on Tuesday 27th May 2025 in Castle Douglas Town Hall at 7pm.

Returning Officer: Sean O’Toole

 Ward Officer (Castle Douglas and Crocketford)

Return Email address: community.councils@dumgal.gov.uk

Date: Monday 17th March 2025