**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**DISPLAY OF ELECTION AND REFERENDUM POSTERS**

In respect of all elections and referenda, the following guidelines for the display of posters or other election material must be observed.

The fixing of bills, posters and advertisements in connection with the election and/or referendum to any part of the walls, railings, etc, within and surrounding the perimeter of the polling place is **not allowed**.

Bills, posters and advertisements **must not** be displayed on any property without the prior approval of the owner of that property.  To affix bills, posters or advertisements to property without the approval of the owner is a contravention of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (Scotland) Regulations 1984 which renders any person who so displays advertising material liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000.   **Falkirk Council’s policy is to refuse permission to any political party or independent candidate for the display on its properties of any election and/or referendum material. This ban applies particularly to the display of election and/or referendum material on lamp standards and road signs but also includes all Council owned property including roads, footpaths and road verges.** Posters, attached to or otherwise displayed on Council property, are liable to be removed and disposed of. A charge will be levied by Falkirk Council for the removal and disposal of such materials.

In August 2004, Falkirk Council adopted a Commercial Use Policy which specifically prohibited the use of free-standing advertising boards on public roads including footways and therefore no advertising boards containing election literature will be permitted on such public areas.

Candidates and agents should note that the Council has no locus on trunk roads which are the responsibility of the Scottish Government. The Council has been advised that Transport Scotland has a policy which precludes the placing of election and referendum material within the trunk road boundary. This policy has been endorsed by the Scottish Ministers.

For statutory reasons the Returning Officer cannot give advice or approval regarding the display of election material. Enquiries regarding the operation of this guidance should be made to Place Services, Falkirk Stadium, 4 Stadium Way, Falkirk, FK2 9EE on 01324 504950. Enquiries with regard to the trunk road network should be made to Bear Scotland on 0800 587 1107.

Director of Place

May 2024