

Item 8i - Question Time

To the Leader of the Council

“What effect did the decision to use primary schools instead of the usual venues as polling places during this year’s elections have on turnout?”

Response to Ms M Smith

There will be many issues which influence the turnout at an Election and the location of the polling place will only be one of them.

However, the turnout in the Council Election in 2017 increased across all Highland Wards, with the votes being cast increasing between 8% and 14.88% compared to 2012.

The turnout in the UK Parliamentary Election in 2017 was lower than in 2015 by between 5.5% to 6%. This trend for a lower turnout was also evident across Aberdeenshire, Moray and Argyll & Bute.