
Meeting of the Cabinet – 24th March 2022

Report of the Chief Executive

Scale of Fees and Expenses for Borough Council Elections

Purpose

1. To approve a Scale of Fees for Borough Council Elections

Recommendations

2. It is recommended:-
 - That the Scale of Fees and Expenses as contained in Appendix A be approved with effect for all local elections held after 1st April 2022.

Background

3. Each Local Authority is required to appoint one of its officers as Returning Officer (RO). The RO is appointed in an independent capacity by the Council to organise and run elections free from the political structure of the authority. Councils must provide their RO with the resources they need to run elections. This includes the cost of recruiting staff to act as Presiding Officer and Poll Clerk, along with any other ancillary staff necessary for the success of a poll.
4. For national polls the government issue a fees and charges schedule which identifies for each authority a “maximum recoverable amount” along with a fee which may be claimed by the appointed RO for rendering of their services. The RO will pay their appointed staff from the monies provided by government and will account for their expenditure by way of a return to the Elections Claim Unit at the Cabinet Office.
5. No such formal structure exists for local elections, which is why a local scale of election fees is required to cover staff costs associated with the administration of elections.

Finance

6. The elections are funded from existing budgets and resources dedicated to the running of elections.
7. The fees represent a 1.5% increase from the last year's scale of fees.

Law

- 8.. Section 36(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 enables the Council to fix a Scale of Fees and Expenditure incurred in connection with the election of Councillors.

Equality Impact

9. There is no immediate equality impact relating to this report.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

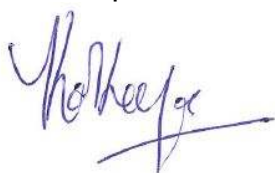
10. There are no direct human resources or organisational development implications associated with this report.

Commercial/Procurement

11. There are no direct commercial or procurement implications associated with this report.

Council Priorities

- 12.. This report falls within the Council's statutory responsibility for providing resources to the Returning Officer for the actual and necessary cost of elections and sets the scale of fees for elections held in 2022. This is in line with the Council's commitment to provide a place of healthy, resilient, safe communities with high aspirations and the ability to shape their own future.



Kevin O'Keefe
Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

Appendices

Appendix A – Scale of Fees and Expenses payable for Borough Council Elections 2022

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List of Background Documents

No background documents