



CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE - 25 FEBRUARY 2025

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2025 - SCALE OF ELECTION EXPENSES

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Constitution Committee's approval with regard to a Scale of Fees to be used at the County Council elections in May 2025.

Background

2. The Chief Executive is the Returning Officer for elections of County Councillors and, as such, is responsible for conducting the elections in accordance with statutory rules. Officers of the District Councils are appointed as Deputy Returning Officers and the majority of the election work is carried out by their staff.
4. The County Council meets the fees and expenses of the elections, subject to these not exceeding a scale fixed by the Council for the purpose. The Scale of Fees which the County Council adheres to is normally one which is used by all the districts and in line with a set of pay bands set out by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Elections Claim Unit.
5. In the past it has been the County Council's practice for members to agree the Leicestershire Scale of Fees for a general election of councillors and for the Returning Officer to be authorised to approve amendments to the scheme for any intervening by-elections.

Financial Implications

5. It is calculated that the total expenditure for the County Council election will be within the budget figure set of £1.8million.
6. The Director of Corporate Resources has been consulted on the resource implications of this report.

Decisions Required

7. The Council's functions relating to elections are exercised by this Committee and this would normally include agreeing the Scale of Fees to apply to County Council elections. It has been the practice for the scale to be fixed by

Members for a general election of Councillors and for the Returning Officer to be authorised to fix a scale for intervening by-elections (to enable the scale to be updated for inflation).

Equality and Human Rights Implications

8. The County Council, in conjunction with the District Councils, will ensure that everyone who wishes to and is eligible is able to vote
9. All polling stations will be kept under review, in accordance with the Electoral Commission's guidance, to ensure they are accessible to the whole of the Leicestershire community.
10. Various sections of the community will be employed in the discharge of the elections across the County.

Recommendations

10. That the Constitution Committee agree:-
 - (a) that the attached scale of expenses be used at the County Council elections to be held on 1st May 2025 and for any subsequent by-elections held before 31st March 2026.
 - (b) that the Chief Executive be authorised to fix a scale for the purpose of by-elections occurring between 1st April 2026 and the next County Council elections.

Background Papers

None.

Circulation Under Local Issues Alert Procedure

None.

Officer to Contact

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Appendix

Recommended scale of fees.