

COUNCIL – 26TH FEBRUARY 2024

Report of the Chief Executive

ELECTION FEES AND EXPENSES FOR 2024/25

Purpose of Report

To approve scales of election fees and expenses payable to the Returning Officer for any local council elections during 2024/25.

Recommendation

That the scale of election fees and expenses appended to this report be adopted for 2024/25.

Reason

To ensure an approved scale of fees can be applied in respect of any local council elections and by-elections which take place during 2024/25.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

A national scale of fees is established centrally for nationwide elections, such as UK Parliamentary General Elections and Police & Crime Commissioner Elections. For local council elections, it is up to each relevant authority to establish their own scale of fees.

It is good practice for the scales of fees to be approved by the Council to which they will apply. For Parish Council elections, the Borough Council adopts a relevant scale of fees which is then used to recharge Parish and Town Councils.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

The scales of fees are based on those used for national elections and are adjusted each year if required to reflect annual pay awards for local government staff and other influencing factors. Staffing related fees have been reviewed and have been set locally for Charnwood at levels which fall within the national recommended acceptable rates.

The scale of fees is applied by the Returning Officer (the Chief Executive) to all County, Borough and Parish elections within Charnwood.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

The costs of County and Parish Council elections are recoverable from the relevant authority.

Charnwood Borough Council will have to meet the costs of any Borough by-elections that may be required during the year.

Risk Management

No specific risks have been identified in relation to this decision.

Background Papers: None

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Appendix

Recommended Scale of Fees and Expenses Payable to Returning Officers at Local Elections