

West Northamptonshire Council
ELECTION OF WARD, PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILLORS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD
REFERENDUMS

Scale of expenditure fixed under Section 36(4) and (5) of the Representation of the People Act 1983

Effective from 1 April 2021

PART 1			
Returning Officer's Fees			
<p>The fees to be paid to the Returning Officer for conducting an election; giving the prescribed notices; preparing, supplying and distributing nomination papers and forms of consent; preparing for signature, verifying and adjudicating upon nomination papers; appointing deputy returning officers, including the deputy returning officers fee; issuing poll cards; issuing and receiving postal ballot papers; arranging for and conducting the poll; counting the votes; declaring the result and making a return of the same; generally performing all the duties which a returning officer is required to perform and for covering all disbursements and expenses other than those for which provision is made in Part 2, but excluding both the employees' and employer's share of superannuation and national insurance contributions where payable, shall be as follows:-</p>			
1	In a contested election		
Where the election is for unitary councillors			
(a)	For each ward	£550	
Where the election is for parish/town councillors or a Referendum to adopt a Neighbourhood Plan			
(b)	i	For every 500 electors (or part thereof) in each parish, parish ward or town boundary (single election)	£65
	ii	For every 500 electors (or part thereof) in each parish, parish ward or town boundary (combined election)	£20
2	In an uncontested election		
For unitary councillors			
(a)	For each ward	£150	
For parish/town councillors			
(b)	For each parish or town council	£25	£15 additional fee for each parish ward

PART 2
Disbursements

POLLING STATION COSTS

Staffing

(a)	Presiding Officer's fee	£200	Additional £25 for each combined election up to a maximum of 3
(b)	Poll Clerk's fee	£140	Additional £15 for each combined election up to a maximum of 3 Part time hours at a proportionate rate as determined by the RO
(c)	Polling Station Inspector's fee	£240	
(d)	Mileage rate for Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officers and Polling Station Staff	45p per mile	To include travel to and from; face-to-face training sessions ballot box collection point polling station verification
(e)	Training Fee to train Polling Station Staff	£50	
(f)	Training Fee for Polling Station Staff	£30	

Premises, printing and equipment related costs

	The rental or statutory charges* in respect of providing permanent polling stations	Actual & necessary costs	
F8	The rental and other costs in respect of providing temporary polling stations	Actual & necessary costs	
	Heating and lighting (per polling station)	Actual & necessary costs	
	Conveyance of ballot boxes and voting screens	Actual &	

		necessary costs	
	The preparation of a room for the purpose of a poll, and of a count, and cleaning and reinstating the room (per station)	Actual & necessary costs	In the case of a school maintained by a local authority, which may be used free of hire charge, the caretaker's fee is to be paid in accordance with the allowances in force in the National Joint Council for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service; or any local agreement: in any other building:
	Compensation payable in consequence of the cancellation of functions in order to make suitable premises available for use as polling stations or places of count	Actual & necessary costs	
F9	Preparation and transport costs for polling station equipment	Actual & necessary costs	
F10	The provision of equipment for polling stations	Actual & necessary costs	
F11	The printing of all ballot papers, electoral registers, corresponding number lists, absent voting lists and notices (Annex E)	Actual & necessary costs	

POSTAL VOTE COSTS

Staffing

(a)	Postal Vote Manager	£25:00 per hour (Evening sessions) £22;50 per hour (Daytime sessions)
(b)	Postal Vote Supervisor	£22:50 per hour (Evening sessions)

		£20:00 per hour (Daytime sessions)
(c)	Postal Vote Assistant	£17:50 per hour (Evening sessions) £15:00 per hour (Daytime sessions)
(d)	Postal Vote Scanner	£20:00 per hour (Evening Sessions) £17:50 per hour (Daytime sessions)
(e)	Training Fee to train Polling Station Staff	£50
(f)	Training Fee for Polling Station Staff	£30
Premises, printing and postage related costs		
G4	Printing and stationery costs for postal voting	Actual & necessary costs
G5	Postal voting postal costs - outward	Actual & necessary costs
G6	Postal vote postage costs – inward	Actual & necessary costs
G7	Accommodation costs for postal voting (if any)	Actual & necessary costs
G8	Equipment costs for postal voting	Actual & necessary costs
G9	Cost of postal vote ‘sweeps’	Actual & necessary costs

POSTAL VOTING COSTS

Staff Costs

G1	Preparation and issue costs if done in-house	£35 per 100 postal voters or part thereof Paid as sessional fees with RO
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		determining the rate of pay
G1	Preparation and issue costs if done by printer/mailing house	£15 per 100 postal voters or part thereof
G2	Opening and checking costs	£44 per 100 postal voters or part thereof Paid as sessional fees with RO determining the rate of pay
G3	Training	Incorporated into the above
Premises, printing and postage related costs		

G4	Printing and stationery costs for postal voting	Actual & necessary costs
G5	Postal voting postal costs - outward	Actual & necessary costs
G6	Postal vote postage costs – inward	Actual & necessary costs
G7	Accommodation costs for postal voting (if any)	Actual & necessary costs
G8	Equipment costs for postal voting	Actual & necessary costs
G9	Cost of postal vote ‘sweeps’	Actual & necessary costs

VERIFICATION AND COUNT COSTS

Staff costs

(a)	Verification/Count Manager	<p>£35 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£32.50 per hour for daytime</p> <p>No mileage payable</p>
(b)	Control Table Staff	<p>£25:00 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£22:50 an hour for daytime</p>
(c)	Verification/Count Supervisor	<p>£25:00 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£22:50 an hour for daytime</p>
(d)	Verification/Count Assistant	<p>£17:50 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£15:00 an hour for daytime</p> <p>No mileage payable</p>
(e)	Senior Verification/Count staff (as determined by the Returning Officer)	<p>£22.50 for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£20.00 per hour for daytime</p>
(f)	Media Team	<p>£17:50 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£15:00 per hour for daytime</p>
(f)	Car Parking & Buildings (incl. security)	<p>£17:50 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£15:00 per hour for daytime</p>
(g)	IT Support	<p>£17:50 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£15:00 per hour for daytime</p>
(h)	Front of House Assistants	<p>£17:50 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p> <p>£15:00 per hour for daytime</p>
(i)	Runners	<p>£17:50 per hour for night count (end of poll onwards), weekends/bank holiday</p>

		£15:00 per hour for daytime
(j)	Training Fee to train Count Supervisors (when undertaken prior to Count)	£50
(k)	Training Fee for Count Supervisors (when undertaken prior to Count)	£30
Count Accommodation, equipment, conveyance and security costs		
	Transfer of ballot boxes from verification to count venue	Actual & necessary costs
15	Hire and associated verification/count premises costs	Actual & necessary costs
16	Equipment and stationery costs for the count (including count refreshments, if any)	Actual & necessary costs
17	Conveyance of count equipment etc	Actual & necessary costs
18	Security costs for the count	If employed by the Returning Officer, rates payable to other count staff apply. If provided externally – actual and necessary costs.

OTHER COSTS

J3	Training courses	Actual & necessary costs
J4	Costs of materials and services	Actual & necessary costs
J6	RO's Superannuation costs	Calculated by payroll
N/a	Encouragement of electoral participation in accordance with the Electoral Administration Act 2006	Actual & necessary costs
N/a	Any other costs not allocated elsewhere	Actual & necessary costs

POLL CARD COSTS

H2	Equipment costs for poll cards	Actual & necessary costs
H3	Printing and stationery costs for poll cards	Actual & necessary costs
H4	Postage or delivery costs for poll cards	2 nd class post or a staff delivery fee not exceeding 90% of 2 nd class post