

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 26 FEBRUARY 2014

SCALE OF ELECTION FEES AND EXPENDITURE 2014-15

Report by County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Introduction

1. Each year the Council needs to set a scale of election fees and expenditure for the holding of elections of county councillors. The Committee are requested to approve the proposed Scale of Expenditure as set out for any by-elections of County Councillors that may be held during 2014/15.
2. The same scale of expenditure will be used for any local referendums e.g. a council tax or mayoral referendum.

Purpose of the Scale of Fees

3. This purpose of the scale of fees and expenditure is to set out the amounts that can be charged for organising and running county council elections and by-elections. In practice, this means that these will be amounts that the district councils will claim back from the County Council for running elections on its behalf.
4. As you will see from the scale some of these costs are fixed and some are “actual and necessary costs”.
5. The mileage rate is linked to the national authorised ‘all car’ rate of 45p per mile.

Levels for 2014/15

6. It is proposed for the fees and levels of expenditure to remain as in 2013/14, with the exception of the Polling Station Inspectors. It is suggested that a flat-rate fee should be paid to Polling Station Inspectors rather than a rate per polling station. This is in line with the approach taken for polling station staff.
7. The City and District Councils have indicated that the proposed scale of fees would be acceptable to them in the running of elections on the County Council’s behalf.

Financial and Staff Implications

8. There are no significant financial implications and no staffing implications.

RECOMMENDATION

9. **The Committee is RECOMMENDED to approve the Scale of Expenditure for the financial year 2014/2015 for the election of County Councillors and any other local referendums.**

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County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

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Background papers: Nil

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