

**RETURNING OFFICER'S FEES**

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**1. Purpose**

1.1 To agree the fees for acting as Returning Officer for Borough and Parish Elections and Neighbourhood Plan Referendums for 2015/16.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 That the Buckinghamshire scheme for Election fees be adopted for 2015/16.

**3. Issues and Choices**

3.1 The Chief Executive is the officer appointed by the Council to be the Returning Officer for district and parish elections (Minute CL27 – 16 July 2014 refers).

3.2 Section 35(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 requires the Council to pay all expenditure properly incurred by a Returning Officer in relation to holding an election to be met.

3.3 It has been the practice for the Council to adopt a schedule of fees and disbursements agreed with the district councils in Buckinghamshire.

3.4 Details of the agreed schedule of fees and disbursements, is attached as an **Annex**.

**4. Implications**

4.1 Policy

None.

4.2 Resources

The budget for Returning Officer Fees and Disbursements for 2015/16 is set at £196,443.

4.3 Legal

Section 35(1) of the Representative of the Peoples Act 1983 provides “that in England every ..... district council shall appoint an officer of the Council to be the Returning Officer for the elections of councillors of the district, and an officer of the Council to be the Returning Officer for elections of Councillors of parishes within the district”.

4.4 Other Implications

None.

Background Papers: Representation of the People Act 1983