

## KENT ASSOCIATION OF ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICERS AND STAFF

September 2011

### NOTES TO PROPOSED SCALE OF ELECTION FEES FOR 2012

1. Since 1998 the Kent scale of election fees mirrored the latest national scale, with local variations (for example, payment to the District/Borough for the use of Council staff). The Local Returning Officers' Charges Order 2009 for the European Parliamentary election introduced a new approach by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The Order provided for an overall maximum of expenditure, based on various assumptions, and allowed flexibility across different heads of expenditure; this approach continued at the 2010 parliamentary general election. However, after full discussion of various options at the September 2010 meeting of the Association, it was unanimously agreed to retain the present structure for District/Borough elections in Kent.
2. At a meeting of the Association in September 2011, members proposed a new item (**item 8**) for the payment of Supervising Officers on the same basis as at national elections: i.e. the same rate of pay for Presiding Officers for every 10 polling stations overseen.
3. The scale of fees is revised each year in accordance with the annual National Joint Council APT & C pay award. As there is no pay award to apply this year, the scale effective from April 2012 will be the same as the existing scale (with the exception of new **item 8** as described above).

## KENT ASSOCIATION OF ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICERS AND STAFF

### Proposed scale of fees for District/Borough and Parish Council elections held on or after 1st April 2012

ITEM	Current 2011 £	Proposed 2012 £	% increase
1. For each Presiding Officer at a Polling Station – single election	197.25	197.25	nil
2. For each Presiding Officer at a Polling Station – combined election or difficult station due to local circumstances (at the discretion of the Returning Officer)	242.32	242.32	nil
3. For a Presiding Officer who acts as a supervisor at a Polling Place where there is more than one Polling Station	(additional) 9.56	(additional) 9.56	nil
4. Presiding Officer travel (see note 4 below)	13.52	13.52	nil
5. For each Poll Clerk at a Polling Station – single election	118.35	118.35	nil
6. For each Poll Clerk at a Polling Station – combined election (at the discretion of the Returning Officer)	146.52	146.52	nil
7. Poll Clerk travel (see note 4 below)	7.86	7.86	nil
8. Supervising Officer – for every 10 polling stations overseen	–	197.25	–
9. For each Presiding Officer, Poll Clerk and Supervising Officer attending training	43.78	43.78	nil
10. For each training session provided by the Returning Officer to Presiding Officers and Poll Clerks	169.09	169.09	nil
11. For the delivery of official Poll Cards by hand	0.34	0.34	nil
12. For the employment of persons in connection with the counting of votes, clerical and other assistance required by the Returning Officer – for each 500 electors (or part) in a contested election	69.01	69.01	nil

## APPENDIX A

13. For the employment of persons in connection with the preparation, issue and opening of postal ballot papers –for every 100 (or part) postal ballot papers issued. (Further resources may be needed to meet the effects of the Electoral Administration Act 2006)	67.63	67.63	nil
14. For each recount of the votes –for each 500 electors (or part) (see note 3 below)	3.97	3.97	nil
15. Travel of staff in connection with the counting of votes (at the discretion of the Returning Officer – see note 4 below)	7.86	7.86	nil
16. For clerical and other assistance required by the Returning Officer at an uncontested election –for each 500 electors (or part)	18.77	18.77	nil
17. Payment to the District/Borough for the use of Council staff to support the Returning Officer in the conduct of elections as follows:			
(a) contested election –(i.e. without District/Borough) for each 500 electors (or part)	53.45	53.45	nil
(b) contested joint election (i.e. with District/Borough) -for each 500 electors (or part)	26.72	26.72	nil
18. Payment to the District/Borough for the use of Council staff at an uncontested election – per uncontested election (see note 5 below)	14.74	14.74	nil
19. Returning Officer's fee for the conduct of elections as follows:			
(a) contested District/Borough OR Parish election –for each 500 electors (or part)	29.87	29.87	nil
(b) contested joint District/Borough AND parish election –for each 500 electors Parish (or part)	41.26	41.26	nil
(c) contested District/Borough election - single fee	51.15	51.15	nil
(d) contested Parish election - single fee	17.52	17.52	nil

## Notes

1. The fees are calculated on the number of local government electors on the register of electors and entitled to vote at the last day for publication of the notice of election.
2. At parish polls the fees relating to polling staff may be pro rata.

3. **Item 14**-in special circumstances, the Returning Officer may recover actual costs.
4. **Items 4, 7 and 15** – variable mileage rates may be applied where fixed travel is considered inappropriate.
5. **Item 18** - the payment referred to applies (in the case of a parish election) to each ward of a parish.