



Committee Council

Date 21st January 2019

**Subject: Election Fees for County, District, Parish/Town Council
Elections and Local Referenda**

Report by:

Executive Director of Resources

Contact Officer:

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Purpose / Summary:

To agree the Election Fees for the Returning
Officer of West Lindsey District Council

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That members agree the fees for the Returning Officer in as detailed appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

None directly arising from this report

Financial : FIN/185/19/TJB

The proposed changes to the Returning Officer will result in the following changes

For District Council Elections (Paid for by WLDC) £5,280 (old) - £5,110 (new) = £170 (reduction)

For County Council Elections (Paid for by LCC) £2,910 (new) - £2,376 (old) = £534 (increase)

For national Elections the fee is set and paid for by central government.

The financial impact on West Lindsey of this change is a reduction of £170 for the four yearly District elections.

Staffing :

The Strategic Lead for People and Governance has been designated as the Returning Officer for the purpose of the Elections.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights :

None from this report

Risk Assessment :

None from this report

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities :

None from this report

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**Call in and Urgency:**

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

1 Introduction

- 1.1 On 14th December 2018 the Chief Executives group for Lincolnshire considered a report from the Lincolnshire Elections Officers' group regarding election fees. The report is attached as appendix A. There are further appendices. Appendix 1 shows the full list of proposed fees for elections. Appendix 2 shows a financial summary of the impact on each District.

2 Returning officer fees

- 2.1 The Chief Executive group were able to agree under their delegations the election fees with the exception of the returning officer fee. This was because 6 of the 8 representatives at the meeting are the Returning Officers for their authority areas.
- 2.2 The fees for returning officers have to be agreed by each authority in accordance with their individual schemes of delegation. For West Lindsey this is a matter for full council.
- 2.3 As detailed in the report the changes are designed to deal with an anomaly which means that fees for County Council elections have in the past been disproportionately low. For West Lindsey the report recommends a reduction of £170 for District Council elections and an increase of £534 for County Council elections.

3 Conclusion

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider the fees for West Lindsey's Returning Officer only.