

This Report will be made public on 22 May 2019



Report Number **A/19/09**

To: Council
Date: 22 May 2019
Status: Non – executive decision
Responsible Officer: Susan Priest, Head of Paid Service

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION –
EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL RETURNING OFFICER

SUMMARY: This report sets out the expenditure incurred or likely to be incurred in respect of the European Parliamentary Election

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To receive and note report A/19/09.
2. To note the expenditure of the Local Returning Officer.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As members will be aware the European Parliamentary Election has been called for 23 May 2019.
- 1.2 This report informs the council of the budgetary position and the risks.

2. EXPENDITURE BY THE LOCAL RETURNING OFFICER

- 2.1 The Head of Paid Service is the Local Returning Officer for the European Election. Election expenses are governed by a fees and charges order made by Parliament. Under this Local Returning Officers may recover their charges for services and expenses, provided they were necessarily rendered or incurred for the efficient and effective conduct of the election and the total does not exceed the overall maximum recoverable amount specified for each area. The expenses are reclaimed from central government although individual items can be queried by the Electoral Claims Unit.
- 2.2 The costs of the election consist of staffing, materials (ballot papers, poll cards etc.) sundry disbursement (postage etc.) and venue hire (polling stations and count venue). Much of this expenditure is incurred before polling day.
- 2.3 The Local Returning Officer has received the following MRA from the Cabinet Office. MRA stands for Maximum Recoverable Amount:

MRA	£189,250
LRO fee	£3,937

If the poll is countermanded by Parliament before Thursday 23rd May 2019 essential expenditure will be reimbursed against the MRA.

- 2.4 As stated above the expenses must be necessarily rendered or incurred for the efficient and effective conduct of the election. Whilst the Local Returning Officer considers that the expenses have been properly incurred there is always a risk that some may be queried

3. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 3.1 There is not a great deal of risk management involved in this issue

Perceived risk	Seriousness	Likelihood	Preventative action
Expenses found to be not necessarily rendered or incurred for the efficient and effective conduct of the	Medium	Low	Keep in touch with the thinking of with the regional returning officer and other local returning officers.

election			
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4. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

4.1 Legal Officer's Comments (??)

(INSERT LEGAL OFFICER COMMENTS)

4.2 Finance Officer's Comments ??)

(INSERT FINANCE OFFICERS COMMENTS)

4.3 Diversities and Equalities Implications (??)

(INSERT EQUALITIES COMMENTS)

5. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting

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The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

None: