

Blackpool Council – Revised February 2018

Fees for Council elections and by-elections

A. Returning Officer's Fees

Fee for conducting the election and generally performing the duties required other than any duties for which separate fees are provided:

The fee payable to the Returning Officer for an all out local election (which is held every four years) is the same as the fee set for the last national election/referendum.

The fee payable to the Returning Officer for ad-hoc local ward by elections is in accordance with a percentage sliding scale as shown below, based on the fee set for the last national election/referendum:

1 – 3 ward by elections on same day	10%	unchanged
4 – 6 ward by elections on same day	20%	The fee/s were previously at discretion of RO. These have never happened but in good governance terms these fees should be set by Council.
7 – 10 ward by elections on same day	40%	
11 – 16 ward by elections on same day	80%	
17 – 21 ward by elections on same day	100%	

B. (i) Deputy Returning Officer's Fees (full powers)

Fee for conducting and generally performing the duties assigned by the Returning Officer, other than any duties for which separate fees are provided - 75% of Returning Officer fee.

(ii) Deputy Returning Officer's Fees (specific powers)

The Returning Officer has the discretion to determine the level of fees taking into account the responsibilities and time undertaken when performing these duties.

C. Polling Staff

The Returning Officer may vary these rates for a combined election/referendum, on the basis of fees set nationally.

	Fee	
Presiding Officer Rate of pay for polling day and attending compulsory training session	£230	Was previously two separate fees

Note: SCP = Spinal Column Point and refers to the appropriate level on the Council's pay scales.

Appendix 5(b)

	Fee	
Poll Clerk Rate of pay for polling day and attending compulsory training session	£150	Was previously two separate fees (slight increase to keep in line with national minimum wage and benchmark figures)
Polling Station Inspector Rate of pay for polling day and attending compulsory training sessions	£245	Were previously separate fees.

D. Issue and opening of postal votes

A 50% reduction will be applied for Council staff during normal working hours.

Postal Issue Supervisor	delete – no longer required	SCP-26
Postal Issuer	delete – no longer required	-SCP-14
Postal Vote Opening Room Supervisor –	unchanged	SCP 33
Postal Vote Opening Team Member –	reduced to be in line with count assistant	SCP-18-SCP 17

E. Count

A 50% reduction will be applied for Council staff during normal working hours.

For any Count taking place outside of normal working hours the rate of pay is at time and a half.

Count Assistant	SCP-14 SCP 17	Was previously double time for first hour and then time and a half per hour. Slightly increased rate for count assistant but at time and a half for each hour.
Count Deputy Table Supervisor	SCP 26 unchanged	
Count Table Supervisor	SCP 33 unchanged	
Other count roles – at the discretion of the Returning Officer		

F. Other duties

A 50% reduction will be applied for Council staff during normal working hours.

Note: SCP = Spinal Column Point and refers to the appropriate level on the Council's pay scales.

Poll cards – preparation – unchanged	Own staff SCP rate up to a max of SCP 30.
Poll cards – delivery – unchanged	16p per card
For providing general clerical assistance / technical support – unchanged	Own staff SCP rate up to a max of SCP 30.
Providing/ delivering training (unless covered elsewhere) unchanged	SCP 26

(Should circumstances require, additional clerical payments may be made at the discretion of the Returning Officer)

G. Mileage / travel – **unchanged**

Mileage payments for all roles will be subject to individual claims and will be at the rate equivalent to the Council's lowest casual user rate if used car or actual and necessary cost.

H. Unsociable working hours – **unchanged**

Any work which may be undertaken during evenings and Saturdays will be paid at time and a half. Any work undertaken on Sundays and Bank Holidays will be paid at double time. (ie outside of the Council's normal core working hours).

Note: SCP = Spinal Column Point and refers to the appropriate level on the Council's pay scales.