

Request:

Can you please provide me with the estimated or actual amount of money spent by the local authority on the following items when administering i) the 2016 EU referendum and ii) the 2017 UK General Election?

i) the 2016 EU referendum

1. Printing ballot papers - £8,378.89
2. Distributing postal votes within the UK - £27,020.47 printing cost. £21,342.85 outward mailing cost.
3. Distributing postal votes abroad – Printing cost not held – included in figure above. £120.50 outward mailing cost.
4. Staff time for
 - a. manning polling stations - £45,005 for Presiding Officers and Poll Clerks.
 - b. counting ballot papers - £18,340 for Count Assts, Senior Count Assts and Count Supervisors.
 - c. administering postal votes and proxy vote applications – This work is carried out by the core Electoral Services team as part of day to day work so it is not possible to calculate the specific cost.
 - d. processing received postal votes - £18,284.16 for staff at postal vote opening sessions.
1. Promotional material highlighting the date of the vote across the local authority – No cost. Marketing and publicity was carried out using the council's internal Communications Team, the council's website and social media.
2. Pencils at polling stations – Pencils are included in Presiding Officer packs. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost for individual items.
3. Polling booths – Stock already held, none purchased.
4. Ballot boxes – Stock already held, none purchased.
5. Tactile voting devices – Stock already held, none purchased.
6. Training staff (both counting staff and staff manning polling stations) - £740 for count staff. £11,960 for polling station staff.
7. Signs directing voters to the polling station - Some stock already held. Signage included in Presiding Officer packs. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost for individual items.
8. Polling station signs – Some stock already held. Signage included in Presiding Officer packs. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost for individual items.
9. Hiring polling stations - £27,718.56
10. Transporting ballot papers from polling stations to count centres – The cost of transporting ballot boxes to the count venue is included in the fee paid to Presiding Officers. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost.
11. Storing completed ballot papers after the election – No cost. All paperwork is stored securely at internal archive store.
12. Provision of disabled access at polling stations – No specific costs. This would be included in the cost of hiring polling stations.

ii) the 2017 UK General Election

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Reference: RFI 1708074

13. Printing ballot papers - £8,471.27
14. Distributing postal votes within the UK - £18,894.55 printing cost. £20,661.57 total outward mailing cost.
15. Distributing postal votes abroad – £122.05 printing cost. Mailing cost information not held – included in figure above.
16. Staff time for
 - a. manning polling stations - £45,070 for Presiding Officers and Poll Clerks.
 - b. counting ballot papers - £18,532.40 for Count Assts, Senior Count Assts and Count Supervisors.
 - c. administering postal votes and proxy vote applications – This work is carried out by the core Electoral Services team as part of day to day work so it is not possible to calculate the specific cost.
 - d. processing received postal votes - £16,296.75 for staff at postal vote opening sessions.
17. Promotional material highlighting the date of the vote across the local authority – No cost. Marketing and publicity was carried out using the council's internal Communications Team, the council's website and social media.
18. Pencils at polling stations – Pencils are included in Presiding Officer packs. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost for individual items.
19. Polling booths – Stock already held, none purchased.
20. Ballot boxes – Stock already held, none purchased.
21. Tactile voting devices – Stock already held, none purchased.
22. Training staff (both counting staff and staff manning polling stations) - £1926.80 for count staff. £11,920 for polling station staff.
23. Signs directing voters to the polling station - Some stock already held. Signage included in Presiding Officer packs. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost for individual items.
24. Polling station signs – Some stock already held. Signage included in Presiding Officer packs. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost for individual items.
25. Hiring polling stations - £25,970.72
26. Transporting ballot papers from polling stations to count centres – The cost of transporting ballot boxes to the count venue is included in the fee paid to Presiding Officers. It is not possible to calculate the specific cost.
27. Storing completed ballot papers after the election – No cost. All paperwork is stored securely at internal archive store.
28. Provision of disabled access at polling stations – No specific costs. This would be included in the cost of hiring polling stations.

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