

**CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
20th APRIL 2005**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To review the election fees paid at Council and Parish elections in Middlesbrough.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the proposed election fees indicated in the Appendix attached hereto be approved.

REASON

3. The need to pay realistic fees continues to be critical.

BACKGROUND

4. In order to hold elections the Council has to appoint staff to do various tasks. A schedule of proposed fees for the current year is attached to this report. The proposed fees attempt to continue the process, started in 2003, whereby the fees for local elections are brought into line with those paid at parliamentary elections. The trend in recent years has been for fewer people to apply to work on elections. This caused some problems at the last full Council elections in May 2003. Your officers are seriously concerned that this problem will get worse at future Council elections unless it continues to be addressed.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

5. Department for Constitutional Affairs – Proposed Returning Officers' Fees and Charges Order 2005.

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