

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE- 21ST JANUARY 2004**

**SUBJECT: TIMETABLE FOR ELECTIONS**

**REPORT BY: ELECTORAL SERVICES MANAGER**

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1. Apologies that I am not able to attend the meeting - I had intended to be present but have been called to a meeting in London with the Electoral Commission. I am unable to provide specific information at the present moment in time but will contact you further once I am in a position to do so. In the meantime, I have tried to provide information which may assist your preparations.

**Day of Election**

2. I suspect that everyone is aware that the Local/Community and European Elections will now be combined and held on 10th June this year. This poses some problems but from your point of view does mean that the cost of the Elections will to a large part be split three ways (cost of polling staff/hire of premises etc.).

**Election Costs**

3. You will appreciate that it is extremely difficult to give you an idea of costs as there are so many variables (such as the number of Candidates standing and the Legislation setting the actual costs and the split). I will try and produce something for each of you as soon as possible based on a worst case scenario i.e. all wards contested by at least three parties (this would mean in a ward with four Members 12 Candidates). Costs directly associated with a Community Council such as Ballot Papers will of course be for you to bear.

**Timetable**

4. I have attached a copy of the Election Timetable. For your information the dates in the shaded areas are statutory "Not Later than" dates whereas the others are a little more fluid such as the issue of postal votes. You may wish to circulate copies to existing Members for information. The critical date is the Last day to receive Nominations.

"Not later than Noon on Thursday 13th May"

**Election Expenses**

5. I also attach a guidance note produced by the Electoral Commission detailing information on Election Expenses which again could be circulated or kept as a reference copy for existing Members. Copies will be made available to candidates nearer the time with Nomination packs.

Author: Bob Screen - Electoral Services Manager