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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2024 No. 297**

**The Police and Crime Commissioner Elections  
(Local Returning Officers' and Police Area  
Returning Officers' Charges) Order 2024**

**PART 1**

**Introduction**

**Citation, commencement and extent**

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections (Local Returning Officers' and Police Area Returning Officers' Charges) Order 2024 and comes into force on the day after the day on which it is made.

(2) This Order extends to England and Wales.

(3) This Order does not apply in relation to an election for which the date of poll, as specified in the notice of election published in accordance with rule 4 in Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Order 2012(1), is on or before 1st May 2024.

**Interpretation**

2. In this Order—

“the 2012 Order” means the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Order 2012;

“police area” means a police area listed in Schedule 1 to the Police Act 1996 (police areas outside London)(2), other than Greater Manchester(3), North Yorkshire(4) and West Yorkshire(5);

“police area returning officer” means, in relation to a police area, the person for the time being designated by an order made under section 54(1)(b) of the Police Reform and Social

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(1) [S.I. 2012/1917](#), to which there are amendments not relevant to this Order.

(2) [1996 c. 16](#). Schedule 1 was amended by section 129(b) to (d) of the Police Act 1997 ([c. 50](#)) and by S.I.s [1997/1844](#), [1845](#), [1846](#), [1847](#), [1849](#), [1850](#), [1855](#), [1857](#), [2009/119](#) and [2022/790](#). It is prospectively amended by section 129(a) of the Police Act 1997 from a date and time to be appointed.

(3) The functions of a police and crime commissioner in respect of Greater Manchester have been transferred to the mayor of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority by [S.I. 2017/470](#). See paragraph 21(b) and (d) of Schedule 2, the effect of which is to remove the requirement to designate both a police area returning officer under section 54(1)(b) and a local authority for the purposes of section 75(1) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 in respect of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

(4) The functions of a police and crime commissioner in respect of North Yorkshire have been transferred to the mayor of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority by [S.I. 2023/1432](#). See paragraph 21 (b) and (d) of Schedule 6, the effect of which is to remove the requirement to designate both a police area returning officer under section 54(1)(b) and a local authority for the purposes of section 75(1) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 in respect of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

(5) The functions of a police and crime commissioner in respect of West Yorkshire have been transferred to the mayor of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority by [S.I. 2021/112](#). See paragraph 21(b) and (d) of Schedule 6, the effect of which is to remove the requirement to designate both a police area returning officer under section 54(1)(b) and a local authority for the purposes of section 75(1) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 in respect of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

Responsibility Act 2011(6) (returning officers etc) as the police area returning officer for that area, so far as such an order applies for the purposes of an election for which the date of poll is on or after 2ndMay 2024;

“voting area” has the meaning given by article 2(2) of the 2012 Order.

### **Meaning of “specified services” and “specified expenses”**

- 3.—(1) In this Order the “specified services” are—
- (a) making arrangements for the election;
  - (b) discharging the relevant officer’s duties at that election.
- (2) In this Order the “specified expenses” are—
- (a) in the case of a local returning officer, those described in paragraphs (3) and (4);
  - (b) in the case of a police area returning officer, those described in paragraphs (3) and (5).
- (3) The expenses are those incurred in—
- (a) the appointment and payment of persons to assist the relevant officer;
  - (b) any travel and overnight subsistence for the relevant officer and any person appointed to assist the relevant officer;
  - (c) printing or otherwise producing the ballot paper;
  - (d) printing, or otherwise producing, and where appropriate publishing, notices and any other documents required by an enactment for or in connection with the election;
  - (e) renting, heating, lighting, cleaning, adapting or restoring any building or room;
  - (f) providing and transporting equipment;
  - (g) conducting the verification of ballot paper accounts and the count;
  - (h) providing and receiving training;
  - (i) providing stationery and meeting postage, telephone, printing, translation and banking costs, and the costs of other miscellaneous items.
- (4) The expenses are those incurred in—
- (a) printing, or otherwise producing, or buying the postal vote stationery;
  - (b) printing, or otherwise producing, and arranging for the delivery of poll cards;
  - (c) providing information and communications technology, equipment and software, and associated costs;
  - (d) providing for the safekeeping and security of ballot papers (including, where necessary, the secure storage of ballot boxes) and any verification documents kept by the returning officer.
- (5) The expenses are those incurred in—
- (a) discharging the police area returning officer’s functions in relation to the nomination process;
  - (b) obtaining legal advice or any translations required in connection with candidates’ election addresses;
  - (c) providing security;

- (d) discharging the police area returning officer's functions under regulation 7 of the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections (Functions of Returning Officers) Regulations 2012(7) (encouraging participation in a police and crime commissioner election).
- (6) In this article, "the relevant officer" means the local returning officer or police area returning officer (as the case may be).