STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1970 No. 299

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1970

Made - - -	*23rd February* 1970
Coming into Operation	*24th February* 1970

The Treasury, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 20(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1949(a), hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1970, and shall come into operation on 24th February 1970.

2. The Interpretation Act 1889(b) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament, and as if these Regulations and the Regulations hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

3. The maximum charges to which a returning officer at a parliamentary election in Northern Ireland shall be entitled are—

(*a*) in respect of services rendered by him, the amounts specified in Part A of the Schedule to these Regulations; and

(*b*) in respect of expenses incurred by him, the amounts specified in Part B of the said Schedule.

4. The Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1964(c) are hereby revoked.

Walter Harrison,
Joseph Harper,
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

23rd February 1970.

(a) 1949 c. 68. (b) 1889 c. 63. (c) S.I. 1964/1580 (1964 III, p. 3557).

SCHEDULE

SCALE OF MAXIMUM CHARGES IN RESPECT OF SERVICES RENDERED AND EXPENSES INCURRED BY A RETURNING OFFICER FOR THE PURPOSES OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH A PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

Only the fees and disbursements specified hereunder shall be chargeable and in particular a returning officer shall not be entitled to charge as an expense payments which he makes from his fees (or otherwise) to a deputy returning officer by way of remuneration for performing functions of the returning officer.

PART A—FEES

	£	s.	d.
I. In a contested election:—			
1. For conducting the election and generally performing all the duties which a returning officer is required to perform under any enactments relating to parliamentary elections, other than any duties for which separate fees are prescribed herein:—			
(*a*) For each county constituency...	186	0	0
In addition, if the number of registered parliamentary electors exceeds 50,000 there shall be paid:—			
For every 1,000 electors or fraction thereof over 50,000 up to 60,000	1	5	0
For every 1,000 electors or fraction thereof over 60,000...	1	0	0
(*b*) For each constituency in the County Borough of Belfast ...	165	0	0
In addition, if the number of registered parliamentary electors exceeds 50,000 there shall be paid:—			
For every 1,000 electors or fraction thereof over 50,000 up to 60,000	1	5	0
For every 1,000 electors or fraction thereof over 60,000...	1	0	0
Provided that the amount payable to a returning officer responsible for more than three borough constituencies shall be reduced as follows:—			
For each constituency exceeding three, a reduction of	40	0	0
2. For services in connection with the despatch and receipt of the ballot papers of persons entitled to vote by post:—			
For each county or borough constituency	10	10	0
In addition, if the number of persons entitled to vote by post in the constituency exceeds 500, there shall be paid:—			
For every 50 or fraction thereof over 500 up to 2,000 ...		7	0
For every 50 or fraction thereof over 2,000		2	0
II. In an uncontested election, for the services specified in paragraph I.1 of this part of the Schedule the amount shall be one-third of the sum prescribed thereunder.			
III. For services in connection with the preparation, maintenance and issue of official poll cards:—			
1. For each county constituency:—			
(*a*) For the preparation, the first revision and the issue of the cards on the occasion of an election	63	0	0
(*b*) For each revision after the first prior to the issue of the cards	21	0	0
2. For each constituency in the County Borough of Belfast:—			
(*a*) For the preparation, first revision and the issue of the cards on the occasion of an election	63	0	0
Provided that the amount payable to a returning officer responsible for more than three borough constituencies shall be reduced as follows:—			
For each constituency exceeding three a reduction of...	20	0	0
(*b*) For each revision after the first prior to the issue of the cards	21	0	0

PART B—DISBURSEMENTS

In no case shall a charge exceed the sum actually and necessarily paid or payable by the returning officer. Subject thereto the maximum charges shall be as follows:—

I. In a contested election:—

	In a County Constituency	In a Constituency in the County Borough of Belfast
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. For the presiding officer at each polling station (to include all expenses, other than any travelling and overnight subsistence expenses specified in this part of the Schedule)	10 0 0	10 0 0
In addition, a further sum, not exceeding 15s. 0d. may be paid to one of the presiding officers at a polling place to which there are assigned not less than 3,000 voters (excluding absent voters other than those for whom proxies have been appointed) being a presiding officer who acts as overall presiding officer at that polling place.		
2. (*a*) For one clerk at each polling station ...	5 10 0	5 10 0
(*b*) For additional clerks at a polling station to which there are assigned more than 700 voters (excluding absent voters other than those for whom proxies have been appointed), such additional clerks not to exceed one clerk for every 600 voters or fraction thereof (calculated as aforesaid) in excess of 700:—		
For each additional clerk (whole-time or part-time as the case may require) an amount within a range having a maximum of	5 10 0	5 10 0
3. For the employment of persons in connection with the preparation and issue of the official poll cards, including charges for employer's share of national insurance and superannuation contributions where payable:—		
(*a*) For the initial preparation of the cards:— For every 100 cards or fraction thereof ...	10 0	6 5
(*b*) For each revision:—		
(i) For every 100 cards or fraction thereof prepared on the initial preparation ...	1 3	1 3
(ii) For every 100 new cards or fraction thereof prepared	10 0	6 5
Provided that, if the number of new cards does not exceed 15 per cent. of the number prepared on the initial preparation, the total allowance for the revision shall be increased by 5 per cent.		
(*c*) For the revision of a particular section of the cards (other than such a revision carried out in the course of a revision of the whole):— For every 100 new cards or fraction thereof prepared	10 0	6 5

	In a County Constituency	In a Constituency in the County Borough of Belfast
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
(*d*) For the completion and issue of the cards on the occasion of an election:—		
For every 100 cards or fraction thereof issued	5 0	4 10
Provided that the maximum amount which a returning officer shall be entitled to charge under this sub-paragraph shall be the total of the sums which he would be entitled to charge for such of the stages of work represented by items (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) hereunder as he has carried out, notwithstanding that the amount disbursed by him for any particular stage is greater than the amount specified hereunder as the maximum amount for that stage.		
4. For the employment of persons in connection with the count and the ballot papers of electors entitled to vote by post, and for all clerical and other assistance employed by the returning officer or deputy returning officer for the purposes of the election, including charges for employer's share of national insurance and superannuation contributions where payable:—		
(*a*) If the number of registered parliamentary electors in the constituency does not exceed 50,000	312 0 0	280 0 0
For every additional 1,000 electors or fraction thereof over 50,000	4 14 0	4 14 0
(*b*) For every 100 persons or fraction thereof entitled to vote by post	4 6 0	4 6 0
(*c*) In the event of a recount of the votes being ordered:—		
For each recount	32 10 0	32 10 0

5. Returning or deputy returning officer's travelling and overnight subsistence expenses where necessary to make arrangements for the poll or otherwise in connection with the conduct of the election.	First-class railway expenses, or where railway service is not available, the actual and necessary cost, with subsistence allowance not exceeding £4 15s. for each night necessarily spent away from home on account of duty.
6. Travelling and overnight subsistence expenses of presiding officers and poll clerks (including any expenses incurred in conveying the ballot boxes in those cases in which presiding officers or poll clerks are responsible for the transport of the boxes to or from the polling stations).	Second-class railway expenses, or, where railway service is not available, the actual and necessary cost, with subsistence allowance to presiding officers not exceeding £3 10s. and to poll clerks not exceeding £3 for each night necessarily spent away from home on account of duty.

7. Travelling and overnight subsistence expenses of clerical and other assistants employed by the returning officer or deputy returning officer where necessary to make arrangements for the poll or otherwise in connection with the conduct of the election.	Second-class railway expenses, or, where railway service is not available, the actual and necessary cost with subsistence allowance not exceeding £3 for each night spent necessarily away from home on account of duty.
8. For printing and providing ballot papers.	Actual and necessary cost.
9. For printing and providing official poll cards.	Actual and necessary cost.
10. For printing and providing notices and other documents required in and about the election or poll and costs of publishing the same.	Actual and necessary cost.
11. For the renting of any building or room for the purpose of the election and for expenses of heating, lighting and cleaning any building or room for such purpose.	Actual and necessary cost.
12. For adapting and fitting up any building or room for the purpose of the election (including the provision of voting compartments and any necessary furniture) and restoring it to fit condition for its normal use.	Actual and necessary cost.
13. For providing ballot boxes, including any repairs.	Actual and necessary cost.
14. For the conveyance of ballot boxes and ballot papers in those cases where the cost of transport is not included in the travelling expenses of presiding officers and poll clerks under paragraph I.6 of this part of the Schedule.	Actual and necessary cost.
15. For every stamping instrument required to be purchased, hired, altered or repaired.	Actual and necessary cost.
16. For copies of the register	Actual and necessary cost.
17. For general stationery, postage, telegrams, telephone calls, bank charges and miscellaneous expenses.	Actual and necessary cost.

II. In an uncontested election, for all necessary preliminary work the amount shall be the same as the amount specified for corresponding work in a contested election, except that for all clerical and other assistance employed by the returning officer or deputy returning officer for the purposes of the election, including charges for employer's share of national insurance and superannuation contributions where payable, the amount shall be not more than one-quarter of the amount specified under paragraph I.4 of this part of the Schedule.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

These Regulations revoke and replace The Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1964. They prescribe, in relation to Northern Ireland, a revised scale increasing the maximum charges in respect of services rendered and some of the maximum charges in respect of expenses incurred by a returning officer for the purposes of or in connection with a parliamentary election.

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