STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1974 No. 181

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1974

Made - - -	*7th February* 1974
Coming into Operation	*8th February* 1974

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 1974 and shall come into operation on 8th February 1974.

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 the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland as the returning officer responsible for the conduct of a parliamentary election in Northern Ireland shall be entitled are, in respect of expenses incurred by him, the amounts specified in the Schedule to these Regulations.

4. The Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1970**(c)** and the Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1970**(d)** are hereby revoked.

Hamish Gray,

Kenneth Clarke,

Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

7th February 1974.

(a) 1949 c. 68.
(b) 1889 c. 63.
(c) S.I. 1970/299 (1970 I, p. 1113).
(d) S.I. 1970/852 (1970 II, p. 2709).

SCHEDULE

SCALE OF MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE WHICH MAY BE INCURRED BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER FOR NORTHERN IRELAND AS THE RETURNING OFFICER FOR A PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION IN NORTHERN IRELAND IN RESPECT OF PAYMENT OF FEES AND DISBURSEMENTS TO PERSONS APPOINTED BY THE RETURNING OFFICER TO ASSIST HIM AND HIS DEPUTY ELECTORAL OFFICERS AND ALL OTHER EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH A PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION IN A CONSTITUENCY

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 Belfast Constituency
	£	£
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)	12.50	12.50
In addition, a further sum, not exceeding £3.00 may be paid to one of the presiding officers at a polling place to which there are assigned not less than 6,000 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 ...	7.50	7.50
(*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	7.50	7.50
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 ...	0.50	0.32
(*b*) For each revision:—		
(i) For every 100 cards or fraction thereof prepared on the initial preparation ...	0.07	0.07
(ii) For every 100 new cards or fraction thereof prepared	0.50	0.32
Provided that, if the number of new cards does not exceed 15 per cent. of the number prepared on the initial preparation, the total		

	In a County Constituency	In a Belfast Constituency
	£	£
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	0.50	0.32
(*d*) For the completion and issue of the cards on the occasion of an election:—		
For every 100 cards or fraction thereof issued (or withdrawn in respect of voters entitled to vote by post)	0.25	0.24
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. Provided also that the maximum amount which a returning officer shall be entitled to charge under this sub-paragraph shall be increased by any amount by which the maximum amount which he is entitled to charge under sub-paragraph 4 below exceeds the amount disbursed by him for the purposes described in that sub-paragraph.		
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	490.00	440.00
For every additional 1,000 electors or fraction thereof over 50,000	7.50	7.50
(*b*) For every 100 persons or fraction thereof entitled to vote by post	6.90	6.90
(*c*) In the event of a recount of the votes being ordered:—		
For each recount	60.00	60.00
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.	Actual and necessary cost.	

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).	Actual and necessary cost.
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.	Actual and necessary cost.
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 repaid.	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 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 Schedule.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations revoke and replace the Returning Officers' Expenses (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1970, as amended. They prescribe, in relation to Northern Ireland, a revised scale increasing some of the maximum charges in respect of expenses incurred by the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland as returning officer for the purposes of or in connection with a parliamentary election.

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