

# Nomination Pack Contents Thursday 2 May 2019

This nomination pack is for use by candidates who are standing at a local government election on 2 May 2019.

Please complete the Nomination Contact Details form and deliver along with your nomination papers to the Returning Officer, Mercury House, Station Road, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 4JX

Delivery of Nomination papers can take place from **Wednesday 20 March 2019**, between the hours of **10am** and **4pm** but no later than **4pm** on **Wednesday 3 April 2019**. Please contact the Election Team on **01748 901018** or email: <u>er.elections@richmondshire.gov.uk</u> to make an appointment to deliver the nomination papers. It may take 30-45 minutes to process the nomination paper.

# The following papers must be delivered by hand and completed by all candidates:

1a: Nomination paper (please see note on GDPR overleaf)

1b: Home address form

1c: Candidate's consent to nomination

# The following papers can be delivered by hand or by post:

If you are standing as a party candidate you must produce a certificate from the "Nominating Officer" of the party allowing your nomination. The certificate should include the description to be used on the ballot paper.

- 2: Certificate of authorisation
- 3: Request for a party emblem

Each candidate must appoint an election agent however, if the candidate does not give notice of appointment within the prescribed time, the candidate is deemed to have appointed him/herself.

4: Notification of election agent

Ensure that where signatures are required, you submit the **original signed version** of each completed paper. Documents without original signatures cannot be accepted.

Note: The use of tippex/correction fluid is strictly prohibited and any form (including the nomination paper) will be rejected if tippex/correction fluid has been used.

# **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**

Data protection legislation applies to the processing of all personal data. Please contact the <u>Information Commissioner's Office</u> for further information about how the legislation affects you.

When collecting subscriber information, you should point out what the information will be used for, and how personal data will be processed and kept secure. The lawful basis to collect the information in these forms is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest and exercise of official authority as set out in the Representation of the People Act 1983 and associated regulations.

You should also explain that the information will be shared with the Returning Officer. For further information on data protection and data processing, you should refer to the Returning Officer's privacy notice on our website.

# **Register of Electors**

Once you officially become a candidate you are entitled to receive a free copy of the electoral register of the Ward you intend to stand. The electoral register contains people's personal data and so the use is very carefully controlled.

As a candidate you can use them to:

- Complete your nomination form
- Help you campaign
- Check that donations are permissible

You must not release to any person any details that appear only in the electoral register and not on the open register which is available for general sale. You must not use the electoral register for any other purpose not listed above. If you have supplied your copy of the electoral register to campaign workers, they must also comply with the requirements above. **You must not make copies of the Register.** 

Three update lists to the electoral registers are published in the lead-up to the poll, including the list of newly registered electors when it is published five working days before the poll

You must ensure that you keep the electoral register secure. Once you no longer need the register for any electoral purpose, you should securely destroy any copies supplied to you as a candidate in accordance with the Information Commissioner's guidelines.

Independent candidates will be supplied with a Register Request form to be completed and returned before the electoral register will be provided. If you are standing as a party candidate, the political agent will collect the register on your behalf and should hand it over to you.

Further information on this is contained in Part 4 of the Electoral Commissions' guidance for candidates and agents.

# **General Information**

- Timetable of key election dates these deadlines are statutory
- Declaration of Secrecy
- Map of District
- Map of Ward

## Guidance

The Electoral Commission provides guidance for candidates and agents standing at local election. Its guides contains details of the election processes and lays out rules on how to conduct your campaign. It explains what you can and cannot do. Failure to follow these rules could result in you committing electoral fraud or breaching electoral law. When an electoral offence has been committed, pleading ignorance of the law is not a valid defence. The police are the relevant body for investigation and/or prosecution of any election offence and any breach should be referred to them. Visit the Electoral Commission's website for further information:

https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/local-elections-in-england

Candidates and their agents should refer to the Representation of the People Acts and related Regulations, The Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, Local Election Rules 2006 and take their own legal advice.

# To be issued after receipt of nomination and close of nomination

- Polling Stations List
- Request for Postal and Proxy Voters Lists
- Candidates Expenses Maximum Limits
- Appointment of Counting Agents and Polling Agents
- Details of opening sessions of postal votes and appointment of agents to attend
- Arrangements for verification and counting of votes
- Return of Election Expenses forms [Note the District Council does not reimburse any Election Expenses]

#### **Contact Details:**

er.elections@richmondshire.gov.uk

Election Team: 01748 901018 Council's Main Number: 01748 829100

Mercury House, Station Road, Richmond DL10 4JX

# Richmondshire District Council Nomination Contact Details

only	Date received	Time received	Initials of RO/DRO	Initials of Electoral Team	Order of delivery
Office Use					-

# Please complete the information below and deliver this form with your nomination forms.

Candidate name		Agent name	
Party (if any)			
Contact details			
Contact details			
Candidate home phone	Candidate	mobile	Candidate e-mail
Agent home phone	Agent mol	oile	Agent e-mail

The data controller will only use the information you have provided on this form for electoral purposes and will look after your personal information securely, following data protection legislation. The data controller will not give personal information about you and the personal information you may provide on other people to anyone else or another organisation unless required by law.

The lawful basis to collect the information in this form is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest and exercise of official authority as vested in the Returning Officer as set out in Representation of the People Act 1983 and associated regulations.

The Returning Officer is the Data Controller. For further information relating to the processing of personal data you should refer to the privacy notice on our website.

# **Candidate checklist**

This checklist is designed to assist candidates standing in a local government election and in preparing to submit their nomination, and should be read alongside the Electoral Commission's Guidance for candidates and agents.

Task	Tick
Nomination form (all candidates)	
Add your full name – surname in the first box and all other names in the second	
Optional - Use the commonly used name(s) box(es) if you are commonly known by a name other than your full name and want it to be used instead of your full name	
Description – Party candidates can use a party name or description registered with the Electoral Commission and supported by a certificate of authorisation from that party; others can use 'Independent' or leave this blank. Whatever you enter in this box will appear as your description on the ballot paper	
Subscribers – all ten subscribers must sign and have their name printed. Use your copy of the electoral register to make sure the elector number of all subscribers are accurate. When collecting subscriber information ensure that you explain what the information will be used for and that the information will be shared with the Returning Officer.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: in person (but not limited to you or your agent), by hand, to be accompanied by the home address form. It cannot be submitted by post, fax, email or other electronic means.	
Candidate's home address form (all candidates)	
Add your full name	
Add your home address in full	
Add your qualifying address, or qualifying addresses, and indicate which of the qualifications you've declared on your consent to nomination the address(es) relate to.	
Add the full name and home address in full of the person attesting your home address form (which must be the same person as signs your consent to nomination form)	
Optional - If you do not want to have your home address printed on the ballot papers, complete part 2 of the form, giving the name of the relevant area or, where outside the UK, the country, in which your home address is situated, and sign the form.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: in person (but not limited to you or your agent), by hand, to be accompanied by the nomination form. It cannot be submitted by post, fax, e-mail or other electronic means.	

Candidate's consent (all candidates)	
You must be a British, Commonwealth or other European Union Citizen and not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom or have indefinite leave to remain. You must also be 18 years old or older on the date you sign this form.	
You must meet at least one of the listed qualifications (a, b, c or d), and mark the form to show which qualification applies. You should mark as many qualifications as apply.	
You must not sign the form if you are disqualified to stand. Make sure that you read the Electoral Commission guidance on standing for election as well as the legislation listed. If you are not sure if you are able to stand you should contact your employer (where relevant), consult the legislation or, if necessary, take your own independent legal advice	
Add your full date of birth	
Sign and date the document in the presence of another person (which must be the same person as the witness on your home address form). You must not sign the consent form earlier than one calendar month before the deadline for submitting your nomination papers	
Get the other person to complete and sign the witness section	
Method of submitting the form (which must include all pages of legislation) to the RO: in person (but not limited to you or your agent), by hand. It cannot be submitted by post, fax, email or other electronic means.	
Certificate of authorisation (party candidates only)	
Ensure the certificate contains the candidate's full name	
Check the certificate allows the registered party name or description given on the nomination paper to be used (or allows the candidate to choose to use the party name or any registered description)	
Ensure the certificate is issued by the party Nominating Officer (or someone that they have authorised to issue it on their behalf) and that it is the original copy signed by that person	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: in person (but not limited to you or your agent) or by post	
Request for party emblem (party candidates only)	
Write the name or description of an emblem registered by the party and published on the Electoral Commission's website	
Ensure the request is made by the candidate	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: in person (but not limited to you or your agent) or by post	
Appoint an election agent (all candidates)	
Give the name, address and office address of the appointed election agent	
Ensure the appointed agent signs the form showing their acceptance	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: in person (but not limited to you or your agent) or by post	

늗	Date received	Time received	Initials	No.
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1a	Local gover	nment election		Nomination paper	
	ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR(S) for the				
1(Insert Ward Name)				ward of the	
district of		RICHI	MONDSHIRE		
Date of election: Thursday 2 May 2		2019			

We, the undersigned, being local government electors for the said ward do hereby nominate the under-mentioned person as a candidate at the said election.

Candida	te's Details			
Candidate	's surname			Mr/Mrs/Miss/ Ms/Dr/Other
Other forei	names in full			
Commonly	used surname (if any)			
Commonly any)	used forenames (if			
Description Use no more	n (if any) than six words (see note 5)			
			Elec	ctoral number
	Signature	Print name	Polling	Elector

			Elec	ctoral number
	Signature	Print name	Polling district	Elector number
Proposer:				
Seconder:				
We, the un foregoing n	dersigned, being local governmenomination	ent electors for the said ward	, do hereby	assent to the
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Please read notes overleaf.

Deliver the nomination paper to the Returning Officer by no later than **4pm** on **Wednesday 3 April 2019.** 

## **Notes**

- 1. The attention of candidates and electors is drawn to the rules for completing nomination papers and other provisions relating to nomination papers contained in the election rules in the Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 (as amended).
- **2.** Where a candidate is commonly known by some title they may be described by their title as if it were their surname.
- **3.** Where a candidate commonly uses a name which is different from any other name they have, the commonly used name may also appear on the nomination paper, but if it does so, the commonly used name (instead of any other name) will appear on the ballot paper.
- **4.** But the ballot paper will show the other name if the Returning Officer thinks that the use of the commonly used name may:
  - (a) be likely to mislead or confuse electors, or
  - (b) that the commonly used name is obscene or offensive.
- **5.** The description, if any, can only be:
  - (a) one certified as an authorised or registered description as mentioned in Rule 5 of the election rules, or
  - (b) the word 'Independent'
- **6.** An elector may not:
  - (a) subscribe more nomination papers than there are vacancies to be filled in the electoral area in which the election is held, or
  - (b) subscribe a nomination paper for more than one electoral area in the same \*county/district/London borough.
- 7. In this form 'elector':
  - (a) means a person whose name is registered in the register of local government electors for the electoral area in question on the last day for the publication of notice of election, and
  - (b) includes a person then shown in the register as below voting age if (but only if) it appears from the register that he will be of voting age on the day fixed for the poll.
- **8.** However, a person who has an anonymous entry in the register of local government electors cannot nominate a candidate for election.

**Notes:** A person's electoral number is their number on the nomination register (including the distinctive letters of the parliamentary polling district in which they are registered) eq (Polling District) CA01R (Elector Number) 3058

	Date received	Time received	Initials	Number
Office Use only				

1b	Local government election	Home address form
Ward	1(Insert Ward Name)	
Date of election	Thursday 2 May 2019	

# You must complete Part 1

Only complete Part 2 (overleaf) if you do not wish your home address to be made public.

Part 1: To be completed by all candida	ates		
Full name of candidate			
Home address (in full)			
Qualifying address, or, where you have declared on your consent to nomination that you meet more than one qualification, your qualifying addresses. You must also state which of the qualifications your qualifying address or addresses relate to (a,b,c and/or d).		State a,b,c or d	
Attestor's full name*			
Attestor's full home address*			
*The person attesting your home address form mus nomination	t be the same person (witness) as signs your co	nsent to	
End of Part 1			

If you are only completing Part 1, please now deliver this form with the nomination paper to the Returning Officer by no later than **4pm** on **Wednesday 3 April 2019.** 

			Time received	Initials	No.	
Home address form						

#### 1b Local government election

# Part 2: To be completed in full only if you do not wish your home address to be made public

If you request that your home address is not made public then your address will not appear on the statement of persons nominated or the ballot paper

If you choose not to make your home address public, the name of the relevant area in which your home address is situated (or country, if outside the UK) will appear on the statement of persons nominated and the ballot papers

Statement: I require my home address not to be made public

The relevant area my home address is situated in:	(insert name of relevant area)
Or	
My home address is situated outside the UK. My home address is situated in:	(insert name of country)
Signature of candida	ate completing Part 2
Candidate's signature:	
Date:	

# For home addresses in England:

- if the address is within a district for which there is a district council, that district;
- if the address is within a county in which there are no districts with councils, that
- if the address is within a London borough, that London borough;
- if the address is within the City of London (including the Inner and Middle Temples), the City of London; and
- if the address is within the Isles of Scilly, the Isles of Scilly

# For home addresses in Wales:

- if the address is within a county, that county;
- if the address is within a county borough, that county borough

# For home addresses in Scotland:

- the local government area in which the address is situated

# For home addresses in Northern Ireland:

- the local government district in which the address is situated

Please now deliver this form with the nomination paper to the Returning Officer by no later than 4pm on Wednesday 3 April 2019.

<sup>1</sup> the name of the "relevant area" in which your home address is situated (if your home address is in the UK)

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1c	Local governn	nent election	n Candida	ite's consent to nor	mination
Date	of election:		Thursday 2 May 2	2019	
I (nan	ne in full):				
	y consent to my nomin date for election as cou		1(Insert Ward Name)		ward
of the	district of:			Richmondshire	
election Comm	on, I will be qualified to	be so elected by izen of the Repub	virtue of being on lic of Ireland or a c	at, if there is a poll on the d that day or those days a qu citizen of a Member State o	alifying
**	a. I am registered as a	local government	elector for the are	a of the district named abo	ve; or
*b. I have during the whole of the 12 months preceding that day, or those days, occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in the area named above; or					
*(	c. my principal or only լ or	olace of work duri	ng those 12 month	s has been in the district na	amed above;
*(	d. I have during the wh	ole of those 12 mo	onths resided in th	e area named above.	
I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief I am not disqualified for being elected by reason of any disqualification set out in, or decision made under, section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972 or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011 (copies of which are printed overleaf), and I do not hold a politically restricted post, within the meaning of Part 1 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, under a local authority, within the meaning of that Part.					
Date o	f birth:	Signature:		Date of conse	nt:
Witness: I confirm the above-mentioned candidate signed the declaration in my presence.					
	ss (name in full):		<u> </u>	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Witness' signature:					

Notes: A candidate who is qualified by more than one qualification may complete any of those that may apply.

Please now deliver this form with the nomination paper to the Returning Officer by no later than **4pm** on **Wednesday 3 April 2019**.

## **Local Government Act 1972**

# 80. Disqualifications for election and holding office as member of local authority

- (1) Subject to the provisions of section 81 below, a person shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of a local authority if he
  - (a) holds any paid office or employment (other than the office of chairman, vice-chairman, deputy chairman, presiding member or deputy presiding member or, in the case of a local authority which are operating executive arrangements which involve a leader and cabinet executive, the office of executive leader or member of the executive) appointments or elections to which are or may be made or confirmed by the local authority or any committee or sub-committee of the authority or by a joint committee or National Park authority on which the authority are represented or by any person holding any such office or employment; or
  - is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim bankruptcy restrictions order, or a debt relief restrictions order under Schedule 4ZB of the Insolvency Act 1986; or
  - (c) [This has been removed and no longer applies]
  - (d) has within five years before the day of election or since his election been convicted in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of any offence and has had passed on him a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months without the option of a fine; or
  - (e) is disqualified for being elected or for being a member of that authority under Part III of the Representation of the People Act 1983.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of section 81 below, a paid officer of a local authority who is employed under the direction of -
  - (a) a committee or sub-committee of the authority any member of which is appointed on the nomination of some other local authority; or
  - a joint board, joint authority, economic prosperity board, combined authority, joint waste authority or joint committee on which the authority are represented and any member of which is so appointed;

shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of that other local authority.

- (2AA) A paid member of staff of the Greater London Authority who is employed under the direction of a joint committee the membership of which includes
  - (a) one or more persons appointed on the nomination of the Authority acting by the Mayor, and
  - (b) one or more members of one or more London borough councils appointed to the committee on the nomination of those councils,

shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of any of those London borough councils.

- (2A) Subsection (2) above shall have effect as if the reference to a joint board included a reference to a National Park authority.
- (2B) For the purposes of this section a local authority shall be treated as represented on a National Park authority if it is entitled to make any appointment of a local authority member of the National Park authority.
- (3) Subsection (1)(a) shall have effect in relation to a teacher in a school maintained by the local authority who does not hold an employment falling within that provision as it has effect in relation to a teacher in such a school who holds such an employment.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d) above, the ordinary date on which the period allowed for making an appeal or application with respect to the conviction expires or, if such an appeal or application is made, the date on which the appeal or application is

finally disposed of or abandoned or fails by reason of the non-prosecution thereof shall be deemed to be the date of the conviction.

# 81. Exception to provisions of section 80

- (4) Section 80(2) and (3) above shall not operate so to disqualify –
- (a) any person by reason of his being a teacher, or otherwise employed, in a school or other educational institution maintained or assisted by a county council for being a member of a district council by reason that the district council nominates members of the education committee of the county council

#### Localism Act 2011

Section 34(4) describes how a person may be disqualified from standing in local government elections under this section. The remaining provisions of section 34 do not directly affect a person's entitlement to stand for election.

#### 34 Offences

- (1) A person commits an offence if, without reasonable excuse, the person—
  - (a) fails to comply with an obligation imposed on the person by section 30(1) or 31(2),
  - (3) or (7),
  - (b) participates in any discussion or vote in contravention of section 31(4), or
  - (c) takes any steps in contravention of section 31(8).
- (2) A person commits an offence if under section 30(1) or 31(2), (3) or (7) the person provides information that is false or misleading and the person—
  - (a) knows that the information is false or misleading, or
  - (b) is reckless as to whether the information is true and not misleading.
- (3) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (4) A court dealing with a person for an offence under this section may (in addition to any other power exercisable in the person's case) by order disqualify the person, for a period not exceeding five years, for being or becoming (by election or otherwise) a member or co-opted member of the relevant authority in question or any other relevant authority.
- (5) A prosecution for an offence under this section is not to be instituted except by or on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions.
- (6) Proceedings for an offence under this section may be brought within a period of 12 months beginning with the date on which evidence sufficient in the opinion of the prosecutor to warrant the proceedings came to the prosecutor's knowledge.
- (7) But no such proceedings may be brought more than three years—
  - (a) after the commission of the offence, or

- (b) in the case of a continuous contravention, after the last date on which the offence was committed.
- (8) A certificate signed by the prosecutor and stating the date on which such evidence came to the prosecutor's knowledge is conclusive evidence of that fact; and a certificate to that effect and purporting to be so signed is to be treated as being so signed unless the contrary is proved.
- (9) The Local Government Act 1972 is amended as follows.
- (10) In section 86(1)(b) (authority to declare vacancy where member becomes disqualified otherwise than in certain cases) after "2000" insert "or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011
- (11) In section 87(1)(ee) (date of casual vacancies)—
- (a) after "2000" insert " or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011 or ", and
- (b) after "decision" insert " or order ".
- (12) The Greater London Authority Act 1999 is amended as follows.
- (13) In each of sections 7(b) and 14(b) (Authority to declare vacancy where Assembly member or Mayor becomes disqualified otherwise than in certain cases) after sub-paragraph (i) insert—
  - "(ia) under section 34 of the Localism Act 2011,".
- (14) In section 9(1)(f) (date of casual vacancies)—
  - (a) before "or by virtue of" insert " or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011", and
  - (b) after "that Act" insert " of 1998 or that section".

1 (1)	Date received	Time received	Initials	No.
Office U				

# 2 Local government election Certificate of authorisation

To accompany the nomination of a candidate standing on behalf of a registered political party. (Note: candidates standing on behalf of two or more parties require a certificate from each party and each must allow the same registered joint description to be used).

This certificate must be issued by the registered Nominating Officer of the party or by a person authorised to sign on their behalf.

This certificate authorises the candidate to use a specific registered description or the name of the party as registered with the Electoral Commission, or to use 'any registered description or the party name as registered with the Electoral Commission'.

This authorised party name or description can then be included by the candidate on the nomination form. It is this which will appear as their description on the ballot paper. Party names and registered descriptions are listed on the Electoral Commission's website (http://search.electoralcommission.org.uk).

Details	Details of candidate to be authorised and the allowed description/party name			
Ward:	1(Insert Ward Name)		Date of election	Thursday 2 May 2019
The cand	lidate (name in full):			
Name of	political party:	Po	olitical party registered with the	Electoral Commission
may inclu	certify that the candidate and the following registered on or party name in their on form:			
	an offence to sign this form d to do so by the party's reg	•		nominating officer or
Nominati authorise	e of party's registereding Officer (or person d by the registereding Officer):			
Name of	person signing this form:			
Date:				

This form must be delivered to the Returning Officer by no later than **4pm** on **Wednesday 3 April 2019.** 

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3	Local government election	Request for a party emblem
	,	

This form is for a candidate of a political party who is subject to a certificate of authorisation and who wishes to have a party emblem printed on the ballot paper next to their name.

Party emblems are listed on the Electoral Commission's website (<a href="http://search.electoralcommission.org.uk">http://search.electoralcommission.org.uk</a>).

This form must be signed by the candidate.

Candidate's request for use of an emblem				
Ward	1(Insert Ward Name)	Date of election:	Thursday 2 May 2019	
Candidate name in full:				
I request that the ballot pape	er shall contain, against my nar	me, the follow	ring registered emblem	
(please identify which emble	em if the party has registered m	ore than one	):	
Emblem to be used (Please use name or description as on the Electoral Commission's website):				
Candidate's signature:				
Date:				

This form is only effective if delivered for a candidate standing on behalf of a political party to the Returning Officer by no later than **4pm** on **Wednesday 3 April 2019**.

Candidates standing on behalf of more than one political party and using a joint description may choose one emblem from one of the parties that you are standing for. Please indicate the name of the party and the emblem name in the 'Emblem to be used' box above.

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4		Local gove	ernment election Notification of election ag		on of election agent	
Ward		1(Insert Ward Name)		Dat	te of election:	Thursday 2 May 2019
Candida	ite's	notification	of their election	n age	ent	
I, (Candida	ate n	ame in full):				
Hereby declare that the name and address of my election agent is						
Agent's na	ame:					
Agent's ac	ddres	ss (in full):				
		dress of my ele	ection agent to which	all cl	aims, notices, lega	al process and other
Agent's of in full:	fice a	address				
Candidate's signature (or of person authorised to act on behalf of candidate):						
Date:						
Confirma	tion	of acceptance	by election agent			
I [agent named above] confirm my acc I understand that I must carry out my fail to fulfil my duties according to law			out my duties accor			
Agent's si	gnatı	ure				
Date						
Agent's other details in case of query (optional – will not be published)						
Home telephone:						
Work telephone:						
Mobile telephone:		ne:				
Email address:						

# Richmondshire District Council District and Parish Council Elections Timetable of Proceedings for Thursday 2 May 2019

Publication of Notice of Election Tuesday 19 March Receipt of Nominations 4:00 pm Wednesday 3 April Withdrawal of Candidate 4:00 pm Wednesday 3 April Publication of Notice of Election Agents 4:00 pm Wednesday 3 April Publication of Statements of Persons Nominated 4:00 pm Thursday 4 April Last Date for Registration Friday 12 April 5:00 pm Monday 15 April Receipt of Postal Vote Applications Publication of Notice of Poll Wednesday 24 April Receipt of Proxy Vote Applications 5:00 pm Wednesday 24 April Appointment of Poll and Count Agents Thursday 25 April First Day to Issue Replacement Lost Postal Ballot Papers Friday 26 April Last Day to Issue Replacement Spoilt or Lost Postal Ballot Papers 5:00 pm Thursday 2 May Receipt of Emergency Proxy Vote Applications 5:00 pm Thursday 2 May 7:00 am to 10:00 pm Thursday 2 May Day of Poll Thursday 30 May Declaration of Candidates Expenses Friday 7 June Return of Election Expenses

Printed and published by the Returning Officer, Mercury House, Station Road, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 4JX

# DECLARATION OF SECRECY ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Applies to all candidates, election agents and polling agents, and to every person attending at the polling stations, the issue and receipt of postal ballot papers and the count

# REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT, 1983 Section 66

- 1. The following persons:-
  - (a) every Returning Officer and every Presiding Officer or clerk attending at a polling station,
  - (b) every candidate or election agent or polling agent so attending,
  - (c) every person so attending by virtue of any sections 6A to 6D of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000,

shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and shall not, except for some purpose authorised by law, communicate to any person before the poll is closed any information as to -

- (i) the name of any elector or proxy for an elector who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at a polling station;
- the number on the register of electors of any elector who, or whose proxy, has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at a polling station; or
- (iii) the official mark.
- 2. Every person attending at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and shall not -
  - (a) ascertain or attempt to ascertain at the counting of the votes the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of any ballot paper;
  - (b) communicate any information obtained at the counting of the votes as to the candidate for whom any vote is given on any particular ballot paper.
- 3. No person shall -
  - (a) interfere with or attempt to interfere with a voter when recording his vote;
  - (b) otherwise obtain or attempt to obtain in a polling station information as to the candidate for whom a voter in that station is about to vote or has voted;
  - (c) communicate at any time to any person any information obtained in a polling station as to the candidate for whom a voter in that station is about to vote or has voted, or as to the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper given to a voter at that station:
  - (d) directly or indirectly induce a voter to display his ballot paper after he has marked it so as to make known to any person the name of the candidate for whom he has or has not voted.
- 4. Every person attending the proceedings in connection with the issue or the receipt of ballot papers for persons voting by post shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting and shall not -
  - (a) except for some purpose authorised by law, communicate, before the poll is closed, to any person any information obtained at those proceedings as to the official mark; or
  - (b) except for some purpose authorised by law, communicate to any person at any time information obtained at those proceedings as to the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper sent to any person; or
  - (c) except for some purpose authorised by law, attempt to ascertain at the proceedings in connection with the receipt of ballot papers the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of any ballot paper; or
  - (d) attempt to ascertain at the proceedings in connection with the receipt of the ballot papers the candidate for whom any vote is given in any particular ballot paper or communicate any information with respect thereto obtained at those proceedings.
- 5. No person having undertaken to assist a blind voter to vote shall communicate at any time to any person any information as to the candidate for whom that voter intends to vote or has voted, or as to the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper given for the use of that voter.
- 6. If a person acts in contravention of this section, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.
- 7. In their application in relation to an election of the London members of the London Assembly at an ordinary election, the preceding provisions of this section shall have effect with the insertion, after the words 'the candidate for whom', in each place where they occur, of ', or the registered political party towards the return of whose candidates,'.
- 8. In relation to an election of the London members of the London Assembly at an ordinary election, any reference in this section to the return of a registered political party's candidates is a reference to the return of candidates included in the list of candidates submitted by the registered political party for the purposes of the election.

