

**General, Borough
and Parish Elections
7th May 2015**



**NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Points to Cover

- Context
- Organisational arrangements
- Significant issues
- Officer



Context

- Largest ever elections in Northampton
- 2 Parliamentary Constituencies
- 33 Borough Council wards
- 10 Parishes
- 45 Elections



Number of Ballots (roughly)

- 118,000 Parliamentary electors
- 142,000 Borough electors
- 27,600 postal voters
- 80% turnout = 208,000. 60% turnout = 156,000
- plus Parishes



Staffing Requirements

- Postal Vote Centre: 40
- Polling Stations and Poll Inspectors: 300 (approx)
- Counts: 250
- Core Team: 10
- Miscellaneous Others: 10



Venues

- Main Hub: Northampton Guildhall
- Postal Vote Centre: Court Room at the Guildhall
- 91 Polling Stations
- Verification and Count Centre 1: Lings Leisure Centre
- Verification and Count Centre 2: Derngate Auditorium
- Parish Count Centre: Great Hall, Guildhall



Verifications and Counts

- Verifications at Lings and Derngate ASAP after close of poll (General, 29 wards, 2 Parishes)
- 4 Borough wards and 8 Parishes in Northamptonshire South verified at Towcester
- Before 2am (hopefully) Friday 8th May General Election counts start
- Borough Count held over to 4pm Friday 8th May
- Parish Counts start 10am Monday 11th May



Simplified Timetable

- 30th March: Dissolution of Parliament
- 30th March: Notice of Local Elections
- 31st March: Receipt of General Election Writ
- by 2nd April: Notice of General Election
- 9th April: deadline day for nominations
- 20th April: Registration deadline
- 21st April: Postal Vote application deadline
- 23rd April – 7th May: Postal Vote Centre working
- 7th May: Polling Day
- 8th to 11th May: Counts
- 12th June: deadline for expenses returns



Significant Issues

- Split venues for verifications and counts
- Verification and count rules
- Northamptonshire South
- Space limitations
- Fees and Charges



Issues for the Council

- Staffing levels required vs. service requirements
- Impact on service delivery
- Purdah and political neutrality





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