

FOI REF:	16544
RESPONSE SENT:	7 January 2026

Request

I would like to know how much your local authority claimed from the Government for running the 2024 Police and Crime Commissioner elections or if you do not have a PCC or PFCC, the cost of running the Mayoral elections for your area.

If you were not responsible for running the election in your area, please provide a NIL response.

Response

I refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act regarding elections. I have been appointed as Returning Officer for Winchester City Council under Section 35 of the Representation of the People Act 1983. My appointment as Returning Officer is separate to my appointment as Chief Executive and, although appointed by the council, the Returning Officer's responsibilities and duties are personal. As such a Returning Officer does not carry out the duties on behalf of the local authority but in their own personal capacity.

A list of public bodies and local authorities that are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act is included in Schedule 1 to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which can be viewed here:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/schedule/1>

As you will see, the Freedom of Information Act does not list any person appointed under the Representation of the People Act 1983. It follows that the Returning Officer, Electoral Registration Officer or any other person appointed under the Act are not subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. As a result, I will not be supplying the information you requested.

Laura J. Taylor
Returning Officer

