Parish council elections in England | Electoral Commission Search Parish council elections in England You are in the section Home Guidance and resources that you need if you are a candidate at a parish council election in England Click here for guidance for standing in other elections The Local Government Disqualification Act 2022 came into effect on 28 June 2022. The Act disqualifies individuals subject to certain sexual offence legal orders from standing for election or holding office in local authorities. We have updated Part 1 of our guidance for Candidates and Agents to reflect this. Secondary legislation has also been made to amend the relevant consent to nomination forms and this came into force on 29 June 2022. We have updated the consent to nomination forms available below to reflect this. For instructions on how to use this guidance and who does what at these elections read the overview below. Candidate guide overview - parish elections in England (PDF) We have produced a timetable with all of the relevant deadlines for the 4 May 2023 elections which can be viewed here: Election timetable for scheduled local government elections in England 2023 For any unscheduled elections please refer to the timetable below. Local government elections in England and Wales timetable Notional spending update Elections Act Under the Elections Act 2022, there has been a change in the definition of 'use on behalf a candidate' in notional spending. The change came into force on 24 November 2022. For more details, please see Understanding changes to the spending rules. Part 1 Can you stand for election? This part covers: Qualifications for standing for election Disqualifications from standing for election Candidate guide - parish elections in England (part 1/6) (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 1: Can you stand for election? List of Commonwealth countries (DOC) Part 2a Standing as an independent candidate This part covers: Completing and submitting your nomination papers Being nominated in more than one ward What happens after the close of nominations? Appointing agents to observe electoral processes What happens if a candidate dies? Candidate quide - parish elections in England (part 2a/6) Click here to view resources for Part 2a: Standing as an independent candidate Nomination papers - Parish Elections England (DOC) Withdrawal form - parish elections (DOC) Polling agent appointment form (DOC) Postal voting agent appointment form (DOC) Counting agent appointment form (DOC) Part 2b Standing as a party candidate This part covers: Completing and submitting your nomination papers Nomination in more than one ward What happens after the close of nominations Appointing agents to observe electoral processes What happens if a candidate dies? Candidate guide - parish elections in England (part 2b/6) (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 2b: Standing as a party candidate Nomination papers -Parish Elections England (DOC) Withdrawal form - parish elections (DOC) Polling agent appointment form (DOC) Postal voting agent appointment form (DOC) Counting agent appointment form (DOC) Part 3 Candidate spending This part covers: How much you can spend The activities covered by the rules What information needs to be recorded and reported Parish council spending return and notes Click here to view resources for Part 3: Candidate spending Candidate imprints factsheet: UK Parliamentary elections, and elections in England Wales and Northern Ireland Part 4 The campaign This part covers: Campaigning dos and don'ts Using the electoral register and absent voters' lists Using schools and rooms for public meetings Imprints on campaign publicity material Polling day dos and don'ts Reporting allegations of electoral malpractice Candidate guide - parish elections in England (part 4/6) (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 4: The campaign Register request form (DOC) Absent voters' list request form (DOC) Code of conduct for campaigners - reserved elections in GB from January 2023 Secrecy requirements - the poll (DOC) Secrecy requirements -

verification and count (DOC) Secrecy requirements - postal voting (DOC) Tellers do's and don't Part 5 Your right to attend key electoral events This part covers:

Attending the opening of postal votes and what to expect Attending polling stations and what to expect Attending the count and what to expect Candidate guide - parish elections in England (part 5/6) (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 5: Your right to attend key electoral events Polling agent appointment form (DOC) Postal voting agent appointment form (DOC) Counting agent appointment form (DOC) Tellers' dos and don'ts (PDF) Secrecy requirements - the poll (DOC) Secrecy requirements - verification and count (DOC) Secrecy requirements - postal voting (DOC) Tellers do's and don't Tellers guidance Part 6 After the declaration of results This part covers:

Making the declaration of acceptance of office Access to election paperwork

Submitting your spending returns and declarations Questioning the result through an election petition Candidate guide - parish elections in England (part 6/6) PDF)