**ELECTORAL INTEGRITY PROGRAMME: NEW BURDENS FUNDING COSTS (2025/26)**

This document outlines all Electoral Registration Officer costs and Returning Officer costs covered by New Burdens Funding.

In England, the upfront grants have been rolled into the Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS). In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the resulting increase in the LGFS (from upfront grants being rolled in) will be reflected, via the Barnett Formula, in the block grant the devolved governments receive.

The table below outlines what funding will be eligible via the JLB process this year. Electoral Registration Officers and Returning Officers are able to apply for cost items covered in previous JLB windows in this JLB payment window.

These are the cost items that fall in the financial year 2025/26.

***Electoral Registration Officer costs***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Cost items covered** | **JLB** |
| **Implementation top up grant** | No |
| **Equipment storage** | Yes |
| **Contact Centre Staffing** | No |
| **Staff processing costs (for VAC, OAVA/PPVR, EUVCR and OEs)** |  Yes |
| **Communication costs (EUVCR)** | No |
| **Training costs** | No |
| **Scanners (including installation costs and licenses)** | No |

***Returning Officer costs***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Cost items covered** | **JLB** |
| **Administrative costs for setting up accessibility devices** | No |
| **Polling station staff training** | No |
| **Change in size of poll cards** | No |
| **By-elections** | Yes |
| **Additional poll clerk per polling station** | No  |