

**ELECTIONS TO THE NEW UNITARY COUNCILS FOR NORTH
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AND WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Elections to the two new Unitary Councils for Northamptonshire will take place on Thursday 7th May 2020.**
- **On that day there will also be elections for the office of Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) for Northamptonshire, and in some areas for Town/Parish Councils.**
- **The Returning Officer for both of the Unitary Elections and the PFCC election will be Graham Soulsby of Kettering Borough Council.**
- **The Returning Officers for the Town/Parish Council elections will be the office holders for the existing Borough/District Councils in Northamptonshire in which the Parishes are situated.**
- **The unitary elections will be administered by the Local Returning Officer at each of the existing Districts/Boroughs in Northamptonshire for their area.**
- **The Local Returning Officer at each of the existing Districts/Boroughs will also be responsible for all of the day to day processes of the Unitary Council elections in their area. Details of how to stand as a candidate will be available from the Electoral Services team at these Councils.**
- **The Local Returning Officer at each of the existing Districts/Boroughs will also be responsible for the day to day processes of the PFCC elections other than the nomination process and the count which will be administered by Kettering. Details of how to stand as a candidate will be available from the Electoral Services team at Kettering Borough Council.**

- Northamptonshire County Council does not have a statutory role in the running of elections and therefore does not have an electoral services function.
- Poll Cards for the above elections will be sent out at the start of April.
- The official Notice of Election will be published on 27th March 2020 and nominations can be submitted after that date for all elections up until 4pm on 8th April 2020.
- Lists of persons nominated will be available from that time and date on each of the Councils' websites and also the Future Northants websites.
- The deadline for registration applications at the election is 21st April 2020.
- The deadline for new postal and postal proxy vote applications at the elections is 5pm on 22nd April 2020, and for new proxy vote applications is 5pm on 29th April 2020.
- The first batches of postal votes for existing postal voters will be sent out in mid-April 2020 with a further issue to late applicants by the end of April 2020.
- Polling Day is Thursday 7th May 2020 and polling hours are 7:00am until 10:00pm.
- The verification of the ballot boxes for all elections will take place immediately after the close of poll in each of the existing Districts/Boroughs and will continue until completion in the early hours of Friday 8th May 2020.

- There will be no further election processes carried out on Friday 8th May 2020 in recognition of the Bank Holiday celebrating the 75th anniversary of VE Day.
- The counts for the Unitary Council elections for North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire will take place on Sunday 10th May in each of the existing Districts/Boroughs in the County starting no later than 11am. The venues will be notified to those who may attend in due course.
- Copies of the Declaration of all results will be available on each of the Council's websites and also the Future Northants websites which will also provide information relating to the make-up of the new Councils.
- The count for the PFCC election will take place on Tuesday 12th May at Kettering Conference Centre (at a time to be confirmed). This will be a centralised count process for all areas of Northamptonshire, and all Districts/Boroughs will be represented.
- The counts for Town/Parish Council elections are a matter for local scheduling by the incumbent Returning Officer who will notify those involved directly.