

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ON WHETHER COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL SHOULD HAVE A DIRECTLY ELECTED MAYOR

1. A valid petition has been received under The Local Authorities (Referendums) (Petitions) Regulations 2011 seeking to change the way Copeland Borough Council is run from a Leader and Cabinet Executive to an Elected Mayor and Cabinet Executive.
2. In accordance with the above Regulations, a referendum will be held to consider the proposed change.
3. The poll for the Referendum will be held on **Thursday 22 May 2014** between the hours of 7.00am and 10.00pm and will be taken together with the poll for European Parliamentary election.
4. The question to be asked at the poll is -

How would you like Copeland Borough Council to be run?

By a leader who is an elected councillor chosen by a vote of the other elected councillors. This is how the council is run now.

OR

By a mayor who is elected by voters. This would be a change from how the council is run now.
5. The referendum will be conducted using procedures similar to those for the conduct of a local council election.
6. The referendum expenses limit for campaign organisers conducting a campaign promoting a particular outcome to the question being asked at the referendum will be based on 54,302 electors and will be £5,565.88.
7. In accordance with Regulation 17 of The Local Authorities (Referendums) (Petitions) (England) Regulations 2011, the Council has drawn up proposals on the operation of the governance arrangements proposed in the petition and the extent of the functions which will be the responsibility of an elected Mayor. These proposals include an Executive of between 2 and 9 Councillors appointed by the Mayor, including one to be designated as Deputy Mayor; arrangements for ensuring that appointments to the Executive, and delegation of Executive functions by the Mayor to the Executive (individually and/or collectively) and/or to officers, are appropriately recorded and notified to the Council; and arrangements for attendance at, and determination of business to be transacted at, Executive meetings, and recording of Executive decisions. The proposals designate functions as Executive or non-Executive functions in the case of functions where the Council has discretion so to designate.
8. Copies of the proposals are available for inspection at the principal office of the Council at The Copeland Centre, Catherine Street, Whitehaven CA28 2SJ during normal office hours

(8.45am to 5.15pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10.00am to 5.15pm on Wednesday and 8.45am to 4.30pm on Friday). Copies of the proposals can be provided free of charge on request.

Dated: 28 February 2014

Paul Walker
Chief Executive