



Ministry of
JUSTICE

European Parliamentary Elections 2009

Charges Orders

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Why a new approach?

Electoral Administration Act 2006

Pressure from electoral administrators

Dissatisfaction with current system

More flexibility

More transparency

More certainty

Better auditing

Better system of estimating

Improving data gathering

Identifying good practice

Establishing baseline costs for functions

What will the new Charges Order look like?

No specified amounts

No parts A, B and C

Single maximum recoverable amount

Split into amount for services and amount for expenses

Amount for services cannot be exceeded

Amount for expenses can be spent however you like

Must be spent on the election

Guidance notes

Comprehensive guidance notes will accompany the Charges Order

They explain how amounts have been calculated – what has been allowed for what function

Also explain reasoning behind calculations and evidence base

Give details of how to complete claims

Other details and background

How will claims be structured?

Split into functions:

- Polling station costs
- Postal voting costs
- Poll card costs
- Count costs
- Other costs

New heads – more detailed and focused on unit costs

New forms + electronic submission

Will enable more realistic comparison and analysis

Will enable fine tuning of system

Other important points

National Audit Office criticism

Deadlines for submission of claims

Advances – initial and further

What is allowable and what is not

Forfeited deposits



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Any questions?

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