

Nomination Procedure

A public notice – ‘Notice of Election’ - will be published in a local newspaper(s) no later than **Friday 8th May 2009** giving notice of the election in accordance with the Local Elections Regulations. The Local Elections Regulations, 1995 – Consolidated Version, February 2009 (Part IV – Articles 11 – 25) details the specific provisions in relation to Nominations for the Local Elections. The Regulations provide for the Returning Officer giving appropriate public notice of the Election stating:

- the times for receiving nominations
- the requirement on Candidates referred to in Article 14 (7) to secure 15 assents or make a deposit in accordance with Article 15 Section 15 Electoral (Amendment) Act 2009.
- the times and place at which nomination papers may be obtained
- the times and place at which the Returning Officer will attend to receive nominations
- the day and period fixed for the holding of the poll if the election is contested.

A person shall not be entitled to have his/her name entered in a ballot paper as a candidate at an election unless that person has been nominated in the manner provided and the person’s nomination paper has been ruled as valid by the returning officer.

At an Election a person may nominate himself or herself as a candidate or may with his/her consent be nominated by another person (being a person registered as an elector in the Area of the local authority for which the person purposes to nominate the candidate) as proposer. Each candidate must be nominated by a separate nomination paper in the form directed by the Minister and a separate nomination paper is required for each local electoral area for which a candidate is nominated.

Each nomination paper must state the names (surname being stated first) and the address and occupation of the candidate. The detailed requirements in relation to nominations are outlined in the ‘Local Elections Regulations, 1995 – Consolidated Version, February 2009’ - a link to these Regulations is available below for ease of reference -

- [Local Electoral Regulations 1995 – as consolidated in February 2009](#)
(Part IV deals with Nominations)

Specific Provisions relating to Non-Party Candidates:

The Electoral (Amendment) Act 2009 replaces the previous assentor system of nominations of certain candidates at local elections with requirements that, if no certificate of political affiliation is attached to a candidate’s nomination paper, one or other of the following procedures must be complied with **before the expiration of the time for receiving nominations:**

- (i) the completion of statutory declarations (**15 in respect of local elections**) by assentors in the local electoral area which must be witnessed by a Commissioner for Oaths, a Peace Commissioner, a Notary Public, a member of An Garda Síochána or an official of the registration authority. to by 15 persons (excluding the candidate and any proposer) who are electors in the local electoral area

- (ii) the candidate, or someone on his or her behalf, shall have made a deposit of €100 (in the case of a County Council Election) to the returning officer in respect of each local electoral area for which the candidate is nominated. If this sum is not deposited in respect of any such local electoral area the candidature of the candidate for that local electoral area shall be deemed to have been withdrawn. The deposit may be made in legal tender or by bank draft only.

Provisions in relation to the return of the deposit are detailed in the Regulations including where the candidate withdraws his or her candidature or is deemed to have withdrawn, dies before the poll is closed, has not been validly nominated, is elected or is not elected but whose votes exceed one quarter of the quota in respect of the local electoral area.

The 'Local Elections Regulations, 1995 – Consolidated Version, February 2009' contain full details of the nomination procedure and the requirements to be complied with if the nomination is to be deemed valid by the Returning Officer.

The earliest time for receiving nominations is 10.00am on Saturday 9th May 2009 and the latest time for receiving nominations is 12 noon on Saturday 16th May 2009.

Nomination Papers must be delivered to the returning officer within the times specified, by the candidate or the proposer of the candidate. The delivery of the paper is to be made by the candidate in person except that, where the candidate is proposed by another person, it may be made either by the candidate or by the proposer in person.

The Returning Officer is required to attend to receive nominations at the place specified in the Notice of Election (will County Hall, Riverside, Sligo) between the hours of 10am and 12 noon and between 2pm and 5pm on Friday 15th May 2009 and between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday 16th May 2009.

The Nomination Paper and Statutory Declaration are available on the links below:

Download Forms

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