

Central Highlands Council by-election announced

A by-election, conducted by postal ballot, is to be held to fill a councillor vacancy following the resignation of Councillor Evan Evans on 7 March 2016.

Under section 308 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a vacancy in the office of councillor is to be filled by a by-election where it is not possible to carry out a recount of votes. At the 2014 Central Highlands Council elections, no poll was required for the nine councillor positions as only nine candidates were nominated.

The notice of election will appear in the Mercury newspaper on Saturday 12 March. Rolls will close at 6pm Thursday 17 March.

Nominations must be received by the returning officer no later than 12 noon Thursday 31 March.

Postal ballot packs will be delivered to voters in the week of Tuesday 5 April. Ballot papers must be returned by 10 am Tuesday 19 April to be included in the count.

The full election calendar is:

Nominations open	9 am Tuesday 15 March 2016
Enrolment closes.....	6 pm Thursday 17 March 2016
Nominations close	12 noon Thursday 31 March 2016
Nominations announced.....	12 noon Friday 1 April 2016
Ballot material delivered to electors by post (if required).....	5 – 8 April 2016
Close of poll.....	10am Tuesday 19 April 2016

ENDS — 4:30 pm Wednesday 9 March 2016

For further information — Andrew Hawkey ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER