

Central Highlands Council and Dorset Council
by-election supplement to:

Information for Candidates, Local Government elections (June 2022)

Election timetable

Nominations open	Monday 18 August 2025
Enrolment closes	6pm Thursday 21 August 2025
Nominations close	12 noon Tuesday 26 August 2025
Nominations announced	12 noon Wednesday 27 August 2025
Ballot material delivered to electors by post	1 September – 22 September 2025
Polling period	1 September – 22 September 2025
Close of poll	2pm Monday 22 September 2025

'Prescribed' and 'relevant' periods

Below is a summary only of some of the periods relating to restrictions on candidates at local government elections. The time periods shown below are for the 2025 Dorset Council by-election.

Section/ regulation	Subject	Period
s.3, s.278, s.279, reg 22A	Limit on 'electoral advertising' expenditure, Prohibition on use of candidate name, photograph or likeness of a candidate or intending candidate without consent, Reporting of 'electoral advertising' expenditure.	'relevant period' – starts on the 30th day before the notice of election and finishes at the end of the polling period. 17 July 2025 – 22 September 2025
s.311	Authorisation of electoral 'articles', Electoral 'article' includes any advertisement, direct mail item, sign, circular, pamphlet, handbill, poster, sticker, dodger and report.	'prescribed period' – means the period commencing on the day on which the notice of election is advertised and ending on the closing day. 17 July 2025 – 22 September 2025
s.314(3)	The supply of food, drink or entertainment with a view to influencing the vote of an elector during the period opposite.	'relevant period' – starts on the 30th day before the notice of election and finishes at the end of the polling period. 17 July 2025 – 22 September 2025
s.314(4) & (5)	Gifts or donations to clubs, associations or bodies (regular donations may be excepted).	'relevant period' – starts on the 30th day before the notice of election and finishes at the end of the polling period. 17 July 2025 – 22 September 2025