**DISPLAY OF ELECTION POSTERS – CODE OF PRACTICE**

**This Code of Practice is not, in itself, legally binding although certain points within the Code are legally binding.**

**I expect all parties and candidates/agents to observe this Code to avoid complaints associated with displaying posters.**

1. The consent of the owner and/or person having control of any land must be obtained prior to the display of any election posters thereon;
2. **Chichester District Council** does NOT permit the display of election notices on land which it owns, except where the land/property is tenanted and the tenant has given consent;
3. All election posters MUST be removed within 14 days after the close of the poll – this is required by law under the current Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations. All reports of any posters not removed should be passed to WSCC Highways team which will contact the relevant political party of candidate to have these removed forthwith;
4. No election poster shall be displayed at the entrance(s) to a polling place as this is the place where my staff would display election signs. This would include the gates/railings/fences etc. to any such building;
5. No election posters shall be displayed within the curtilage of any polling place. I define curtilage as being the grounds associated with that building, including any designated car park and access driveways. This also means that no vehicle within the curtilage of the polling station shall display election posters;
6. ‘Election Poster’ means any poster or publication designed to promote the election of any candidate, or political party;
7. In view of the involvement of the Returning Officer (RO) and her staff on other matters of high priority on polling day, the decision of the Returning Officer is final and no correspondence or communication will be entered into during the Election. You may, however, seek clarity on the reason for the decision after the election has taken place;
8. The Returning Officer reserves the right to remove any such posters contravening this code and WSCC Highways reserves the right to remove any poster that, in its sole opinion, is detrimental to the convenient use of the highway or the safety of road users.

Diane Shepherd

Returning Officer, Chichester District Council