

Office of the Returning Officer

Date: _____

***Issue of postal voters' ballot papers, opening of postal voters' ballot boxes
and counting of votes for the GE 2020***

A Chara,

I hereby give you notice that if the forthcoming election is contested I shall –

1. Issue ballot papers to postal voters at Courthouse Portlaoise on the Sunday, 26th day of January 2020, commencing at 9.30 am. You may appoint 1 agent to attend.
2. Open the postal voters' ballot boxes at Count Centre Portlaoise located at Kea Lew Business Park, on the 8th day of February 2020 at 7.00 pm. You may appoint 1 agent to attend.
3. Begin to count the votes at 9 a.m. on the day after the polling day, 9th February 2020, at the count Centre Portlaoise located at Kea Lew Business Park. The counting of votes includes the adjudication on "doubtful" ballot papers after the ballot boxes have been opened and the ballot papers have been mixed in preparation for the first count.
4. Personation Agents- The name of any personation agent appointed by you and the polling station to which he/she is allotted should be notified to me together with the names and addresses of any sub-agents. 4 days in advance of polling day. The schedule for Laois stations should be forwarded to Returning Officer, Courthouse, Portlaoise marked personation agents Laois and schedule for stations in Offaly forwarded to Returning Officer, Courthouse, Tullamore marked Personation Agents Offaly.
5. Please confirm the name and contact details of your election agents and/or party director of elections, if appropriate.
6. Please confirm the required agent details in respect of the Standards in Public Office requirements.

Further details in relation to the GE 2020 process will be issued to you as we get nearer to the day of Polling.

Mise le meas,

**Mr Paul Fetherstonhaugh
Returning Officer
Laois Offaly Constituency.**

