

Elections and Registration Working Group

Terms of reference

Background

For the 2009 European Parliamentary election, the RRO Co-ordination Group agreed to nominate a working group to act as a reference point for the development and delivery of the Commission's support programme. The membership of this group included each RRO or their appointee, so providing a UK-wide forum to ensure that the needs of all European Parliamentary electoral regions were met.

The Commission, RROs and working group members concurred that the working group provided a useful forum for exchanging working practices, consulting on the Commission's guidance products and for aiding the delivery of consistency across the European Parliamentary regions. The continuation of the group until the next UK Parliamentary general election was agreed at the post-election working group meeting of 7 July 2009.

Objectives

- To provide the Commission with advice and support in the development and delivery of its support programme
- To articulate the needs of electoral registration and elections staff in Great Britain, using the European Parliamentary electoral regions as geographic divisions, and ensure that their needs are reflected in the support programme
- To provide a report on progress to each meeting of the successor to the RRO Co-ordination Group to enable that group to disseminate out information on processes, support and issues

Membership details

Membership of the group will include the most recent appointees of RROs and the GLRO in London. The Ministry of Justice, the Association of Electoral Administrators and the Scottish Assessors Association will also be represented on the group. Members of this group will be asked to provide input on issues relevant to the practical administration of the next UK Parliamentary general election and the collection of personal identifiers for registration purposes.

The Working Group will be chaired by the Electoral Commission's Electoral Practice Manager. Its secretariat will be provided by the Commission and will ensure close liaison with MoJ and the RRO Co-ordination Group.

Scope

- To consider any relevant practical implications of new legislation
- To advise on the development of the Commission's support materials for EROs, (A)ROs and electoral administrators
- To provide comment on the content of the Commission's support materials
- To consider issues relevant to the practical administration of the next UK Parliamentary general election
- To provide regular updates, recommendations and matters for decision to the successor to the RRO Co-ordination Group.

Timeframes

The group will meet on a monthly basis in the period leading up to the next UK Parliamentary general election, with a review meeting to be convened after the elections. In addition, meetings may be held following that election to discuss the practical implications of individual electoral registration.

In addition to this, members will be consulted on an as required basis on proposed content and then drafts of the Commission's support products, in addition to other relevant documents or issues arising between scheduled meetings of the group.

The Electoral Commission
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