

# Contact us

The  
Electoral  
Commission

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We also have offices in Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, and throughout England. You can find contact details for these and further information on our website, [www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

You can also follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ElectoralCommUK](https://www.twitter.com/ElectoralCommUK) or register to vote at [www.aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk)



Who we are and  
what we do

## What is the Electoral Commission?

We are an independent body set up by the UK Parliament. Our aim is integrity and public confidence in the democratic process. We regulate party and election finance and set standards for well-run elections.

We:

- register political parties
- make sure people understand and follow the rules on party and election finance
- publish details of where parties and candidates get money from and how they spend it
- set the standards for electoral registration and running elections and report on how well this is done
- make sure people understand it is important to register to vote, and know how to vote
- run any referendums held in accordance with the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

## Our aim

Integrity and public confidence in the UK's democratic process

## Our objectives

We focus our activities and resources to achieve:

**Objective 1** – Transparency in party and election finance, with high levels of compliance

**Objective 2** – Well-run elections, referendums, and electoral registration

## Our values

**Fair** – we are fair in the way we treat each other and the people and organisations we deal with

**Impartial** – we are impartial in our decisions and actions

**Transparent** – we are transparent about how we work

# Objective 1

## Transparency in party and election finance, with high levels of compliance

We want people throughout the UK to be confident that:

- there is transparency about party and election finance so that people know where money comes from and how it is spent
- the rules on party and election finance are followed, and those who do not follow them are dealt with appropriately and effectively

We publish information on our website about where parties get money from and how they spend it so that the whole process is transparent and information is publicly available.

We also want to ensure that those who wish to take part in the electoral process – including parties, candidates and other campaigners – can easily find out how to get involved, and what the rules are.

# Objective 2

## Well-run elections, referendums, and electoral registration

We want people throughout the UK to be confident that:

- registering to vote and taking part in elections is straightforward, accessible and secure
- they will receive a consistently high-quality service, wherever they live and whichever elections or referendums are being held

Above all, we want people to have confidence in the results of elections and for there to be no unnecessary barriers to voting. We work with those responsible for maintaining and compiling the electoral registers (Electoral Registration Officers) and for running elections (Returning Officers) to ensure that elections and referendums meet voters' needs and expectations. We provide guidance for Electoral Registration Officers and Returning Officers and monitor their performance. Where voters do not receive a high-quality service we provide support so that improvements can be made.



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