electoral administration bulletin



Issue 229 (Wales) - 10 January 2019

Electoral Commission response to the National Assembly for Wales consultation on voting rights for prisoners

In November 2018, as part of an inquiry being undertaken by the Equality and Local Government and Communities Committee, the National Assembly for Wales launched a consultation on voting rights for prisoners.

On 2 January we issued <u>our response</u> to that consultation. We take no view on whether prisoners should be entitled to vote or not as this is a matter of constitutional policy which is for the National Assembly to determine. Our response therefore focuses on the practical implications should prisoners in Wales be given the right to vote. It concentrates on issues such as the criteria for determining eligibility, the method by which prisoners would cast their vote and the provision of voter information.

Electoral Commission seminar on maintaining confidence in elections and democracy in the digital age

On 20 February, as part of our series of seminars on democracy, we will be holding a seminar on maintaining confidence in elections and democracy in the digital age.

The Chair of the UK Electoral Commission, Sir John Holmes, will discuss the key priorities for the Commission and its partners in 2019 at a vitally important time for democracy in Wales and the United Kingdom.

The event will include a welcome from Elin Jones AM, the Llywydd of the National Assembly for Wales, and a question and answer session chaired by Elan Closs Stephens CBE, Electoral Commissioner Wales.

The seminar will take place at the Senedd at 18:30. Refreshments will be provided and simultaneous translation will be available.

The Electoral Commission

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Information about and a link to our response, which was published on 2 January.

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Information on the event and how to reserve your place.

EA Bulletins are issued on a regular basis. They are one of our key channels for communicating with Returning Officers, Electoral Registration Officers and their staff. Past issues of Bulletins for England, Scotland and Wales are available here. You can also subscribe to the EA Bulletins.

Please <u>keep us informed</u> of any staff changes within your team. This will help us to keep our mailing lists up-to-date.

If there is a new RO/ERO appointment in your authority, please contact the team in Wales by e-mailing infowales@electoralcommission.

We are sending you this newsletter as it contains important information about the Electoral Commission's work which is relevant to you. The

Please book your free place via Tocyn Cymru.

This event is sponsored by Elin Jones AM, Llywydd.

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