

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



Issue 248 (Scotland) – 17 December 2019

UK Parliamentary general election: thank you

Following the UK general election last week, the focus is on politics and the results and not on the process of running the poll. This is exactly as it should be, reflecting that the election was generally well-run.

And this didn't happen by accident - we are only in this position as a result of the significant efforts and intense work of electoral administrators across the UK. It is to the credit of Returning Officers, Electoral Registration Officers and their teams that the poll was delivered successfully at short notice.

However, we all know about the pressures on electoral administrators in running a general election within the current framework, and we know that there were instances where electors did not receive the standard of service we would all want them to.

We are now focussed on collecting feedback and data to inform our post-election reporting. We will use this opportunity to fully review the election and consider any recommendations - whether for us, governments or the electoral community - that could improve the process in the future.

UK Parliamentary general election: post-election feedback and data collection

As highlighted in [recent Bulletins](#), we'd like to hear your views and experiences of administering the UK Parliamentary general election and are also collecting administrative data relating to the poll via an online portal.

We recognise that these requests come towards the end of an intense period of activity for you, but your feedback and data are important to us. They help to inform our reporting on the poll, provide supporting evidence for our wider research and policy work and help us to improve how we support you in delivering well-run elections in the future.

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Immediate reflections on last week's poll.

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Information on how to submit feedback and data following the recent UK Parliamentary general election.

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Information on the collection of data following the publication of the revised registers.

Electoral registration: canvass reform update

An update from the Cabinet Office on the national data test and information from the Electoral Commission about our plans for supporting canvass reform.

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 [keep us informed](#) of any staff changes within your team. This will help us to keep our mailing lists up-to-date.

Electoral administration feedback

Please provide your feedback by completing [this survey](#) by **Friday 17 January 2020**.

The survey is similar to ones issued after previous polls and seeks your views on various key aspects of the administration of the election, including voter registration, nominations, polling day itself and the count. We are also asking for your views on the support and advice provided by the Commission.

Should you have any queries about the survey, please contact research@electoralcommission.org.uk.

Data collection

We will be sending out emails tomorrow (18 December) inviting you to register for the online data portal. As set out in [Bulletin 245](#), this email will be sent from research@electoralcommission.org.uk to your generic local authority elections email address. To register, click on the link in the email, where you will be asked to set up a password.

Once registered, you can access the portal using the log-in page – a link to that page will be provided when you register. It can also be found on [our website](#) and in the [user guide](#). You can then enter your electoral data. The deadline for submission of data is **Friday 17 January 2020**.

The user guide includes the list of the generic local authority election email addresses we have used to contact you. If you do not receive an email, please [contact us](#) to let us know what generic local authority elections email address we should use.

If you have any questions, please contact us at research@electoralcommission.org.uk.

Electoral registration: 2019 canvass data collection

As in previous years, we will be collecting data relating to the annual canvass and the publication of the revised registers. As highlighted in [Bulletin 245](#), the deadline for submitting your data will be **Friday 24 January 2020**.

As usual, the data to be provided is contained in reports which can be generated via your EMS system. If you're experiencing technical issues, the fastest way to resolve these will be to contact your EMS supplier directly for support.

We will be collating and publishing the information that we receive so we ask that you please check your data after you generate the automated report and before you submit it to us in order to help ensure its accuracy.

Once you have generated the report in your EMS system and reviewed the data, please submit it to CanvassData@electoralcommission.org.uk before Friday 24 January 2020. Please note that this email address is different from that we've used in previous years.

We are sending you this newsletter as it contains important information about the Electoral Commission's work which is relevant to you. The newsletter forms part of the Electoral Commission's public task which has its basis in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. We will manage your personal information and contact details in line with the General Data Protection Regulation and UK data protection legislation as outlined in our privacy notice (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/privacy-notice>)

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, you may [unsubscribe](#) at any time.

Electoral registration: canvass reform update

National data test

Further to their email of 17 December, the Cabinet Office have asked us to remind you that they will issue guidance for the canvass reform national data test early in the New Year. In the meantime, if you would like more information or have any questions about the data test, please email canvass-reform@cabinetoffice.gov.uk.

Electoral Commission update

While our work to prepare for supporting you with canvass reform has continued throughout the election period, we are revising our plans for the delivery of voter materials, ERO guidance and new ERO performance standards in light of the poll, and are doing so in consultation with the SAA, AEA and Solace.

We will provide you with a full update on our revised plans via a Bulletin early in the New Year.

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