

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



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A reminder of information on packs which have been provided to (A)ROs by the House of Commons for provision to candidates who are elected to the UK Parliament.

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.

UK Parliamentary general election: accredited observers

The deadline for prospective observers to apply to observe any aspect of the UK Parliamentary general election on 12 December was midnight on Monday 25 November. We are currently processing the applications we have received, and the final lists of accredited observers will be published on Monday 9 December.

As you know, by law, Commission representatives and observers accredited by the Commission may observe:

- the issue and opening of postal votes
- the poll
- the verification and count

Our [Code of Practice](#) for accredited observers highlights that providing advance notification of where they intend to observe can assist them in making more effective observations. However, electoral observers are not required to give advance notice of where they intend to observe and are free to make unannounced visits.

All Commission representatives and accredited observers will carry a photographic identification card issued by the Commission. As set out in [Bulletin 236](#), we updated the electoral observer ID badges following a review of the electoral observer scheme last year. These new designs are reflected in the polling station handbooks we have made available for the election.

Electoral observation is a legitimate and valuable part of the electoral process - care should be taken not to hinder or obstruct the conduct of any observations, and you should ensure you have plans in place to support observers in observing the processes they are entitled to attend.

You can access the registers of observers and find out more about accredited observers on [our website](#).

UK Parliamentary general election: post-election electoral administration feedback

We would like to hear about your views and experiences of administering the UK Parliamentary general election.

Your feedback is important to us – it will not only inform our post-election reporting but will also help us to improve how we support you in delivering well-run elections in the future. The survey will be similar to ones issued after previous polls and will seek your views on various aspects of the poll including voter registration, nominations, polling day itself and the count. We will also be asking for your thoughts on the guidance and support provided by the Commission.

The [survey link](#) will be made live the day after polling day and the deadline for completion will be Friday 17 January 2020. We will provide a reminder of the link to the survey and the deadline for completion in a future Bulletin.

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

UK Parliamentary general election: reminder – packs for candidates who are elected to the UK Parliament

All (Acting) Returning Officers should by now have received a pack from the House of Commons which contains essential information for Members of Parliament.

This pack contains:

- a covering note to the Returning Officer
- a separate envelope containing a letter from IPSA
- a New Members' Guidebook
- a letter from the House of Commons
- an HMRC checklist

It is important that the pack is handed over to Members straight after the declaration of the result.

If you have not yet received the pack for any constituency where you are (Acting) Returning Officer, please email generalelection2019@parliament.uk as soon as possible, with your postal address and constituency name.

If any of your candidates have accessibility needs, please contact the House of Commons Communications Office, using the email address above, for alternative formats.

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

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>)

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