

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



Issue 261 (Wales) – 8 January 2020

Electoral Commission response to the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee on the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill

In November 2019, the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee launched a public consultation as part of its consideration of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill.

On 6 January we issued our [written response](#) to that consultation, focussing on the provisions in the Bill that are directly relevant to our work. We will also be attending a meeting of the Committee on 15 January to give oral evidence.

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

As highlighted in several [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.

Electoral administration feedback

Thank you to everyone who has already completed [the survey](#). If you would still like to give us your feedback, the deadline for doing so is **Friday 17 January 2020**.

The survey is similar to those 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 guidance and support provided by the Commission.

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

Data collection

We are collecting administrative data relating to the UK

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Parliamentary general election using a new online portal. The first step is to register, which you can do through the email which has been sent from research@electoralcommission.org.uk to your generic local authority elections email address.

It has come to our attention that some registration emails may have gone into the spam/junk email for your local authority email address. An email reminding you to register will be sent out today (8 January) from research@electoralcommission.org.uk. If after today you have still not received anything, please [contact us](#). If you do find the registration email in your spam/junk email, you should be able to change the settings so that future correspondence from us will go directly into your email inbox.

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](#).

Your username is your local authority elections email address (i.e. the email address that received the registration email). Please note, if the system does not recognise your username, you can check the one we have listed for you in the user guide, which contains a list of all the local authority elections email addresses.

The deadline for submission of data is **Friday 17 January 2020**.

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

UK Parliamentary general election: forwarding of candidate spending returns to the Commission

Following a UK Parliamentary election, (Acting) Returning Officers ((A)ROs) are required by law to forward copies of candidate spending returns to the Commission.

This year we are introducing an easy-to-use method for you to supply these returns to us via Objective Connect, an online secure file sharing service.

Further information about how to access this service will be provided to you in a Bulletin once the deadline for candidates to submit these returns to (A)ROs has passed. We would be grateful if you could please wait until we have provided you with this further information before submitting any returns to us.

May 2020 Police and Crime Commissioner elections: publication of guidance

Further to [Bulletin 251](#), we have now updated and published all the core guidance for [Returning Officers and Police Area Returning Officers](#) ahead of the scheduled Police and Crime Commissioner elections in May 2020.

We have also updated and published our guidance for [candidates and agents](#) standing at Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

In all cases, the guidance hasn't changed significantly from previous years, with the updates principally focussed around reflecting GDPR and legislative changes removing the requirement for candidates to

handbooks and quick guides.

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.

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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have their home addresses published on the ballot paper. The change log at the front of each guidance Part has been updated to reflect the amendments that have been made.

Supporting resources for both Returning Officers and candidates and agents have also now been published. The resources continue to be linked to from within the core guidance and can also be found underneath the resources section of the relevant guidance part.

As a result of legislative changes that are expected to be made in early 2020 relating to Police and Crime Commissioner elections, we have not yet published nomination forms for these elections. We will update you in a future bulletin when these are available.

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May 2020 Police and Crime Commissioner elections: polling station handbooks and quick guides order form

We are now collecting orders for hard copies of polling station handbooks and quick guides for use at the Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

The deadline for completing the [online order form](#) is **Friday 24 January 2020**.

We will be printing to order so it is important that you provide us with your figures by the deadline.

Please note that once you have submitted your order form, you will not be able to amend your order yourself. If you need to make any changes to your order, please contact infowales@electoralcommission.org.uk.

We will confirm the timing of the delivery of the hard copies in a future Bulletin.

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