

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



Issue 254 (Scotland) – 24 March 2020

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Reminder of and a link to the Commission's consultation, which closes on 31 March.

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.

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>)

Postponement of polls

Following the announcement that the scheduled elections due to take place in England and Wales on 7 May 2020 are to be postponed to May 2021, the UK Government have included provisions within the [Coronavirus Bill](#) which will give effect to this.

The legislation also includes provisions in relation to the postponement of by-elections in Scotland.

The Bill is being debated in the UK Parliament this week, and a legislative consent motion is being debated in the Scottish Parliament at the same time.

We will update you once the Bill has been made. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact infoscotland@electoralcommission.org.uk.

We will continue to support Returning Officers who have vacancies in their area. Also, we understand that the Convener of the EMB will be writing to all Returning Officers to provide advice on this matter.

Reminder of consultation on new performance standards for Electoral Registration Officers

As highlighted in [previous bulletins](#), on 22 January we launched a [consultation](#) on new performance standards for Electoral Registration Officers.

Our intention is to establish a set of standards which can be used by EROs and the Commission throughout the year (including in the lead-up to electoral events), to understand and improve performance, ensuring ultimately that electoral registers are as accurate and complete as possible and that everyone who is eligible and wants to vote is able to do so.

We are grateful for the feedback we've received to date. If you haven't already provided your views, you can respond by filling in [this form](#) or by e-mailing your thoughts to performancestandardsinbox@electoralcommission.org.uk.

The consultation closes on **31 March**. If, however, you want to respond to the consultation but think you are going to be unable to meet this deadline, please contact us by e-mail to performancestandardsinbox@electoralcommission.org.uk.

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