

# electoral administration bulletin

The  
Electoral  
Commission



Issue 267 (Scotland) – 23 September 2020

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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>)

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### Local government elections: updated guidance and new emergency proxy application form

We have updated our guidance to reflect the changes made by [The Representation of the People \(Absent Voting at Local Government Elections\) \(Amendment\) \(Coronavirus\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2020](#).

The legislation enables an elector to appoint an emergency proxy if they are unable to vote in person because they are self isolating due to following Scottish Government advice or the advice of a registered medical practitioner in relation to coronavirus. They must become aware of this fact after the deadline for ordinary proxy applications in order to be eligible.

These provisions currently only apply to local government elections in Scotland, although we understand Scottish Government are also considering equivalent changes for Scottish Parliament elections.

The updated guidance is contained within [Part D](#) of our local government elections guidance for Returning Officers and [Part 5](#) of our guidance for Electoral Registration Officers.

We have also produced a new emergency proxy form for use in these circumstances, which is available on our website [here](#).

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The Electoral Commission  
City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh,  
EH1 1YJ

Tel: 0333 103 1928

Textphone: 18001 020 7271 0500  
[infoscotland@electoralcommission.org.uk](mailto:infoscotland@electoralcommission.org.uk)

[www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

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