

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



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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>)

May 2021 election: management information survey

As part of our approach to supporting the delivery of the Scottish Parliament election in May 2021, we will be asking you for information relating to how you will be managing the poll in your area. The questions will be similar to those included in previous management information surveys and will cover key topics including: the issuing of poll cards and postal votes; numbers of polling stations and staff; and verification and count timings and venues.

The information you provide will help to build up a clear picture of the plans that have been put in place in Scotland and across Great Britain as a whole for the delivery of the elections and will also provide key statistics which can be used with the media and other enquirers both reactively and proactively. We will share the information we collect with the Convener of the Electoral Management Board.

You will receive a link to the survey by e-mail on 14 December 2020, with a deadline for response of 15 January 2021. We appreciate that you may not be able to provide all the information we are requesting by this date as you may still be working to finalise the arrangements for the elections in your area, but we would be grateful for your support in providing as full a response as you can by that time.

2020 canvass: report on progress

We have today (Wednesday 25 November) published [a report on progress with the 2020 canvass](#). The report highlights the key findings from our engagement with EROs from July to September 2020, and also draws out some examples of good practice which have emerged.

The report highlights that the canvass is progressing well, even in the context of the challenges presented by the coronavirus pandemic.

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The data matching process has delivered results that were largely in line with expectations, with 73% of properties across Great Britain being allocated to Route 1. There are, however, significant variations across local authority areas, ranging from 50% to 96% of properties being allocated to Route 1.

In addition to enabling EROs to focus their resources on targeting those properties where changes are needed, the reformed canvass has also given EROs greater flexibility as to the channels they use to communicate with electors. The report notes that this ability to use the likes of phone and e-mail has proved particularly beneficial in helping EROs to deliver the canvass against the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic, reducing the number of in-person visits that are required.

We will continue to engage with EROs and their teams over the remainder of the canvass and throughout the period leading up to the May 2021 election, and will report on the findings from our engagement and our analysis of the data and information that has been collected, after the publication of the revised registers.

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