

[REDACTED]

From: FOI
Sent: 27 February 2018 16:07
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: FOI
Subject: FOI 017/18 Voting Pilots - Response

Dear [REDACTED],

Our Ref: FOI 017/18

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 dated **30 January 2018**.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Due to the large number of attachments for this response, we have employed the use of our secure cloud-based document storage system 'Objective Connect'. You will receive a 'Invitation to **Objective Connect** Email Notification' (sent to the inbox of [REDACTED]). This notification will contain a link to enable you to start using **Objective Connect**. Please find below details on how to access the specific area we have set up for your documents.

1. You will be prompted to set up your username and password. Your username will be your email address, and your password can be whatever you like.
2. With your username and password, enter both details at the login screen and click 'login'.
3. You will now see your personal page, which will show the Share '**FOI 017/18-Voting Pilots**'.
4. By clicking on the share, you will then find the folder 'supporting documentation'.
5. Within this folder you will find 170 documents which are relevant to the FOI request. You may view any of these documents by selecting the 'download' option, and then 'open'.
6. In addition you may download a copy to your personal computer by selecting the 'download' option and then 'save as'.

This service will be closed 1 month [**27/03/18**] after the official response has been dispatched.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

You have requested:

I write regarding a Freedom of Information request on pilots conducted by the Electoral Commission to increase voter turnout between 1997 and 2010 (for example, on advance voting and extended voting hours). I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information:

- 1. A breakdown of the costs of each pilot.**
- 2. The release of concluding Electoral Commission reports from each pilot.**
- 3. The release of survey evidence collated by the Electoral Commission from each pilot.**

Our response is as follows:

We hold some of the information you have requested.

Pilot schemes took place between 2000 and 2007. The May 2000 scheme pre-dated the establishment of the Commission and was evaluated by the local authorities directly.

The Commission evaluated the subsequent pilots in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006 and 2007. The Commission was not responsible for the running of the pilot schemes and therefore only holds cost data as it related to our evaluations.

The following documents have been provided with this response.

2000

- Individual pilot reports

2002

- Individual pilot reports
- The Commission's summary evaluation
- Research findings on the pilot areas
- Accessibility evaluation

2003

- The Commission's summary evaluation (The Shape of Elections to come)
- The Commission's technical report on the pilots
- Individual pilot reports

2004

- Research findings on the pilot areas
- Accessibility evaluation
- The Commission's summary evaluation (Delivering Democracy)
- The Commission's regional evaluation reports

2005 – the planned pilot schemes were cancelled

2006

- Individual pilot reports
- Research findings on the pilot areas

2007

- Individual pilot reports
- The Commission's summary evaluation

- Research findings on the pilot areas

I trust that this information satisfies your request. The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information-requests/how-do-i-make-an-foi-request>

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely,


Information Management Adviser

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