

# electoral administration bulletin

The  
Electoral  
Commission

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An update on our plans for Welcome to Your Vote week, which will take place from 30 January – 5 February 2023.

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



Issue 332 (Wales) – 4 November 2022

## Elections Act: Voter ID – guidance update

The secondary legislation which provides for how the new voter ID measures from the Elections Act will work in practice has now been laid in parliament.

Once the legislation has been made, electors will be required to provide photographic ID in order to vote in person at the polling station at UK Parliamentary by-elections and PCC elections or to sign a recall petition at a signing place. This will apply at polls from May 2023. The requirement for voter ID to be provided at UK Parliamentary General elections will take effect for polls after 5 October 2023.

The legislation also sets out the application process for ERO-produced Voter Authority Certificates which can be used by electors who do not have an acceptable form of photographic ID to vote in person at the polling station.

As set out in [Bulletin 331](#), we are taking a phased approach to the provision of guidance to support you with delivering the new requirements, focussing on getting you what you need as swiftly as possible and in the order that you will need it.

Now that the regulations have been laid, we are working to finalise our core guidance for EROs to support you with the Voter Authority Certificate application process and requirements for Anonymous Elector Documents. We are also working to update our key planning considerations guidance to reflect detail confirmed since it was last updated in October. We expect to be able to publish the core guidance for EROs and the planning guidance update later this month and will confirm in a Bulletin once these are available.

Protection Regulation and UK data protection legislation as outlined in our privacy notice (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/privacy-notice>)

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, you may [unsubscribe](#) at any time.

## Publication of Returning Officer guidance

You may notice that we have made some changes to the layout of the core guidance for Returning Officers on our website as we begin to publish guidance in our new web-based format.

At the moment only the RO guidance for the scheduled local government elections in England in May 2023 has been published in this way.

Access to all other RO guidance has not changed. The RO guidance for other election types will be updated on a rolling basis as it is revised ahead of future polls.

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## Welcome to Your Vote week

Welcome to Your Vote week 2023 will take place from Monday 30 January – Sunday 5 February.

We're asking schools and youth groups across the UK to get involved by starting the conversation about democracy and politics with their young people.

For 2023, we want to show that democracy is for everyone, and that democracy is taking place all around us.

Schools could run a workshop, lesson, event or registration drive to learn more about what democracy means and how everyone can be involved. We have free, impartial [lesson plans, classroom activities, videos and quizzes](#) to support educators and young people to discuss democracy, politics and their vote.

Please share information about Welcome to Your Vote week 2023 with your colleagues and schools and youth groups in your area, and ask them to [sign up to our newsletter for educators](#) to be the first to hear more about our plans and new resources.

Join us for an online briefing session on Wednesday 9 November to find out more about our plans for the week in Wales and how you can get involved. [Sign up now](#).

Let us know how you're starting the conversation about democracy with young people in your area with #WelcomeToYourVote.

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