

# electoral administration bulletin

The  
Electoral  
Commission



Issue 346 (England) – 5 January 2023

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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>)

## Elections Act: Voter ID – update

### Voter ID campaign launches on Monday 9 January

Our new voter ID public awareness campaign will launch in England on Monday (9 January). In [Bulletin 343](#), we shared our campaign concept, 'Note to self', which aims to raise awareness of the new requirement.

'Note to self' features giant handwritten sticky notes as unmissable reminders that will prompt voters to bring their ID on polling day. Voters can expect to see our sticky note reminders across advertising channels including billboards and buses, online in their social feeds, on website banners and in local newspapers. Our TV advert will appear on linear TV and 'Video on Demand' and will be used across a range of digital channels to increase the shareability of our campaign.

Campaign adverts will direct voters to our website to find out more information.

### Voter ID resources for partners

We are producing resources to help you support groups who are less likely to have an accepted form of ID to vote in the May 2023 local elections in England. These resources will be available to download in the week beginning Monday 9 January.

The resources include tailored information for:

- Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities
- Older people
- People experiencing homelessness
- People who are registered to vote anonymously
- Trans and non-binary people

Resources containing tailored information for disabled people will be shared in due course.

We have also developed a [set of resources for local authorities](#) holding elections on 4 May 2023 to support residents to understand

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and meet the new voter ID requirements. This includes voter information booklets, posters, social media assets, template website copy, template press releases and an information guide for staff and volunteers.

**Please do not share these resources with residents or any organisations you work with prior to the launch of our advertising campaign on Monday 9 January 2023.**

If you have any questions on the campaign or our partner resources, please contact us at [partners@electoralcommission.org.uk](mailto:partners@electoralcommission.org.uk).

### **Voter Authority Certificate paper application forms**

A sample of the Voter Authority Certificate paper application form can now be viewed on [our website](#). We have published this at this stage to give you advance sight of the form content, prior to the application service going live.

The full set of forms that will be published on the same webpage when the application service goes live includes:

- Voter Authority Certificate application form
- Voter Authority Certificate application form for service voters and overseas voters (also known as ‘the special category elector form’)
- Anonymous Elector’s Document application form
- Easy read application form
- Large print application form
- Alternative languages application forms

The sample form **must not** be shared with the public prior to the application service going live later this month.

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### **May 2023 elections: pre-poll survey**

As part of our approach to supporting the delivery of the May 2023 polls, we are once again collecting information from all local authorities with scheduled elections relating to how the polls will be managed in their area. The survey can be accessed [here](#).

Similarly to previous years, the information you provide will help us to build up a clear picture of the arrangements that have been put in place for the delivery of the polls and will also provide key statistics which can be used with the media and other enquirers both reactively and proactively.

The survey covers areas such as scheduled dates of issue of poll cards and postal votes, numbers of polling stations and staff, and verification and count timings and venues. We also want to hear about how you are preparing for the new Elections Act provisions. We understand how busy you are and very much appreciate your time in providing us with this important information.

We would be grateful if you could complete the survey by no later than Friday 27 January 2023. We have made available [a list of the questions](#) which you can use for reference before you complete the survey.

If you have any queries about any aspect of this, please contact

[infoengland@electoralcommission.org.uk](mailto:infoengland@electoralcommission.org.uk).

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