

# 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>)



Issue 359 (England) – 9 May 2023

## May 2023 elections: post-poll message from the Commission

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make Thursday's elections a success. Our initial assessment is that overall, the elections were well run. Across the country, votes were cast throughout the day and in line with the law.

This is in large part thanks to your dedication. We know how much preparation went into the day, and the hard work you did to ensure the new voter ID requirement was well implemented and voters were able to have their say.

Our focus now is on evaluating the full impact of the voter ID requirement, which can only be revealed through detailed data collection and analysis over the coming weeks. We already know from our research that the ID requirement posed a greater challenge for some groups in society, and that some people were regrettably unable to vote as a result. It will be essential to understand the extent of this impact, and the reasons behind it, before a final view can be taken on how the policy has worked in practice and what can be learnt for future elections.

That's why the data you have collected is so important. The deadline for submitting the voter ID data to the Commission is this Friday, 12 May.

As set out in [Bulletin 355](#), data should be submitted via our [online data portal](#). A [user guide](#) for the portal is available. Also, a [data collation spreadsheet](#) has been produced which can be used to enter VIDEF data from polling stations. The sheet will calculate the data fields which are asked for in the portal and, on a separate tab, produces data which can be made publicly available.

Given your fundamental role in the elections, we would also like to hear about your experiences. Our feedback survey can be found [here](#) and the deadline for completion is Friday 9 June. Our survey for polling station staff is also still open and we would appreciate your help in providing your staff with an emailed link to the online

survey: <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/WMQKVHB>. Thank you to everyone who has already highlighted it to their polling station staff.

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

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## May 2023 elections: surgeries for candidates and agents

As part of our commitment to delivering more proactive support for candidates and parties, we're hosting virtual advice surgeries for candidates and agents to ensure they have the advice and guidance they need.

We are offering 15-minute appointments with an expert advisor at the Commission to discuss specific issues relating to the spending and donation laws, and to answer any queries candidates and agents might have. The appointments will provide practical support with spending returns. Virtual appointments will be available using Microsoft Teams throughout the following days, on a first come, first served basis.

**Tuesday 23 May**  
**Wednesday 24 May**  
**Thursday 25 May**

Please feel free to share this information with candidates and agents in your area. To request an appointment, candidates and agents should [complete our form](#) and can contact Stuart Butler on [sbutler@electoralcommission.org.uk](mailto:sbutler@electoralcommission.org.uk) if they have any further questions.

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