

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



Issue 345 (Scotland) – 10 April 2024

Elections Act: forms and letters

In line with the changes introduced by the Elections Act 2022, we have updated our Invitation to Register (ITR) forms. While we have not made significant changes to the forms, we have added the Online Absent Vote Application link and voter ID messaging (except for the anonymous voters form).

The updates to our existing suite of forms are being made in line with our best practice principles for form production, to ensure they are easy for voters to use and understand while capturing the new legislation accurately.

A sample of the draft application forms can be viewed [here](#) on our website to give you early sight of the form content, prior to the legislation coming into effect on Tuesday 7th May 2024. The forms are currently undergoing ministerial review, therefore the drafts we have uploaded on our website are subject to change. These sample forms also offer you the opportunity to agree templates with external printers, if necessary.

The full set of ITR forms will be published on our voter-facing webpage, on the legislation go-live date.

Please note that the forms have been shared with the various EMS suppliers to ensure they are also ready for go-live, however, the sample forms must not be shared with the public or used to submit applications.

May 2024 elections in England and Wales: observer scheme

Observer application deadline – April 18

Please note the deadline to apply to be accredited as an electoral observer in advance of the 2 May polls taking place in England and Wales is Thursday 18 April.

We will publish the updated registers of accredited observers eligible to observe the 2 May polls no later than Friday 26 April.

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Elections Act: forms and letters:

Information on updates to our suite of voter-facing Invitation to Register (ITR) forms and Eligibility Confirmation Review (ECR) letters.

May 2024 elections in England and Wales: observer scheme:

Confirmation that the deadline to apply to be an accredited electoral observer in advance of May polls is Thursday 18 April 2024.

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>)

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

Giving notice of where you intend to observe

The law does not require electoral observers to give advance notice of where they intend to observe and they are free to make unannounced visits. However, our [Code of Practice](#) highlights to observers that providing advance notification of where they intend to observe can assist them in making more effective observations.

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