

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



Issue 213 (England) – 4 April 2018

May 2018 polls: update on party names, descriptions and emblems

Since [Bulletin 212](#) we have made updates to the following parties:

- [Abolish the Town Council Party](#)
- [Foundation Party](#)
- [Stalybridge Town Party](#)

You can find full details of what amendments have been made in our [list of recent decisions to approve or reject applied-for party names, descriptions and emblems](#).

When receiving nominations, Returning Officers must check that the party name or any description given on a nomination form, as well as the requested emblem, is registered on [the Commission's registers of political parties](#) and that the details provided match the registration. To ensure you are viewing the most up-to-date information, you may need to delete your browser history or refresh the page. If you are unsure how to do this, your IT team should be able to advise you.

Should you have any questions about the registers, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

Emblem zip file

A Zip file of emblem images is available [on our website](#) and was last updated on 3 April 2018. You should not use any Zip files downloaded before this date for any purpose. In any case, while the Zip file is a tool that can be used by your printer to prepare ballot papers, it is the information on the [Commission's register of political parties](#) that should be used for confirming which emblem to print on the ballot papers. **You should therefore ensure that you and your printers only download and use the Zip file once nominations have closed** and that all proofs of ballot papers are also checked against the Commission's register of political parties

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before being approved for print.

May 2018 polls: a reminder of legal references in our guidance relating to ballot papers, forms and other notices

As you know, our guidance for Returning Officers includes legal references. The references in our guidance are generally to the original legislation as amended, and we do not specifically quote the amending legislation in each case.

However, to assist Returning Officers in producing the correct version of forms and notices, we do include specific reference to any amending rules or regulations in those instances where a prescribed form or notice - that we don't also provide a template for - has been updated since the passing of the original legislation.

Parts [C](#) and [D](#) of our guidance include references to amendment regulations affecting the prescribed forms and notices listed below in order to help Returning Officers and electoral administrators more easily access what they need to be able to produce the following:

- Poll cards
- Ballot papers (including the ballot paper reverse)
- Postal voting statements
- Corresponding number lists (polling station and postal)
- Guidance for voters notice
- Instructions for voters notice

May 2018 polls: public awareness update – 'Got 5' campaign - two weeks to go

There are less than two weeks remaining to encourage people to register to vote in the local elections before the registration deadline of Tuesday 17 April. We have already seen a great response to our 'Got 5' campaign, with the week commencing 26 March seeing the most online applications to register of any week this year.

As set out in previous Bulletins, we have produced resources to help you promote voter registration in the run-up to the voter registration deadline. We have also published a suite of voter information resources which aim to provide further information to voters before polling day, such as polling station opening hours and answers to common queries. All these resources are available to download from our [resource hub](#).

May 2018 polls: Democracy Club - online polling station finder and information on candidates

As at the elections in May and June 2017, we will again be providing information about polling station locations and details of candidates standing on our [Your Vote Matters](#) website.

Thank you to all local authorities who have been providing their polling station data to Democracy Club. This work will allow voters to find their polling station online on our [Your Vote Matters](#) website by entering their postcode.

and how to apply.

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.

From around mid-April we will also be making available a list of candidates standing for election on our [Your Vote Matters](#) website. This information will be compiled from the statements of persons nominated published on local authority websites. To find this information, users will need to enter their postcode on the main landing page of the site, and candidates standing for election in their area will then be listed.

If you have any questions about the information we are featuring on our website, please do [get in touch](#).

A reminder about a job vacancy at the Electoral Commission

We are currently recruiting for an Electoral Guidance Manager, to be based in our London office. The deadline for applications is 23:45 on 8 April 2018.

If you would like further information or would like to apply, please visit the [recruitment page](#) of our website.

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact Charlene Hannon on 020 7271 0587.

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