

# electoral administration bulletin

The  
Electoral  
Commission



Issue 218 (Scotland) – 10 January 2019

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### Scottish Government consultation on prisoner voting

Information on the Scottish Government's consultation on prisoner voting, including details of how to respond.

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Please [keep us informed](#) of any staff changes within your team. This will help us to keep our mailing lists up-to-date.

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### Scottish Government consultation on prisoner voting

The Scottish Government has launched a [consultation on prisoner voting](#).

The consultation seeks views on the Scottish Government's proposals to ensure compliance with the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) on the matter of prisoners voting in elections and a proposal to allow only those prisoners with short prison sentences to vote.

Details of how to respond are included on the Scottish Government's [consultation portal](#). The deadline for submitting a response to the consultation is Friday 8 March 2019.

### Electoral Commission response to the National Assembly for Wales consultation on voting rights for prisoners

In November 2018, as part of an inquiry being undertaken by the Equality and Local Government and Communities Committee, the National Assembly for Wales launched a consultation on voting rights for prisoners.

On 2 January we issued [our response](#) to that consultation. We take no view on whether prisoners should be entitled to vote or not as this is a matter of constitutional policy which is for legislatures to determine. Our response therefore focuses on the practical implications should prisoners in Wales be given the right to vote. It concentrates on issues such as the criteria for determining eligibility, the method by which prisoners would cast their vote and the provision of voter information.

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