

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



Issue 231 (England) – 14 November 2018

Electoral registration: guidance and resources to support you with preparing for the end of the canvass

Publication, access and supply of the electoral register

As you know, EROs are required to publish the revised register by 1 December 2018, unless there has been an election during the canvass, in which case publication of the register may be postponed until up to 1 February 2019.

You can find guidance on the publication of the revised register, including all the relevant deadlines, in chapter 5 of [Part 3: Annual Canvass](#) of our guidance for EROs.

You can find our guidance on access and supply of the register in Chapter 12 of [Part 4: Maintaining the register throughout the year](#) of our guidance for EROs.

We have also updated our resource summarising [who is entitled to receive a copy of the electoral register](#). The differences from the previous version are as follows:

- UK Statistics Authority – change of contact name for providing data copies
- Electoral Commission – minor changes relating to how to provide data copies

Electoral Commission – accuracy and completeness study

As highlighted above, details of how to supply copies of the electoral register to the Commission are set out in our [access and supply resource](#).

This year, we will also be carrying out a study on the accuracy and completeness of the December 2018 electoral registers.

Contents

Electoral registration: guidance and resources to support you with preparing for the end of the canvass

A reminder of our guidance and resources on publication, access and supply of the electoral register and information on an accuracy and completeness study to be conducted by the Commission.

Electoral registration: 2019 rolling registration dates

A link to the 2019 rolling registration dates.

Electoral registration: easy read guide

A link to an easy read guide which has been added to the register to vote website.

May 2019 polls: publication of guidance

Information on the guidance and supporting resources which have been published ahead of the May 2019 polls.

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](#).

Our last study was carried out three years ago and this new project will give us updated estimates of how accurate and complete electoral registers are across the UK. As with previous studies, a sample of local authority areas will be selected randomly and we will be following up shortly with EROs from those areas to ensure we receive a copy of their full December register as quickly as possible after publication.

Following the collection of the registers, house to house fieldwork will take place across more than 100 local authority areas in Great Britain and across Northern Ireland in early 2019. It will not be possible from the way the data will be presented to identify how accurate and complete the registers are estimated to be in individual local authority areas. However, estimates will be produced for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as well as at the overall UK level.

Once the study has been completed, we will share our findings with you through the EA Bulletin.

Electoral registration: 2019 rolling registration dates

We have [published a document](#) containing the dates relating to the publication of notices of alteration throughout 2019. In addition to the dates relating to the monthly notices of alteration to the full register, the document contains dates relating to the election notices of alteration (for the 2 May 2019 local elections in England) and to the relevant deadlines for the receipt of a request to be included or omitted from the edited register.

Electoral registration: easy read guide

An [easy read guide to registering to vote](#) has been added to the register to vote website. It is a step-by-step guide to registering to vote online for people with a learning disability. Easy read registration forms also continue to be available on the [register to vote website](#).

May 2019 polls: publication of guidance

We have now updated and published our [core guidance](#) for Returning Officers and Combined Authority Returning Officers ahead of the scheduled local government and combined authority mayoral elections in May 2019.

We have also updated and published our guidance for candidates and agents standing at:

- [Local government elections](#) in England and Wales
- [Combined authority mayoral elections](#) in England
- [Local authority mayoral elections](#) in England
- [Parish and community council elections](#) in England and Wales

The majority of the changes we have made have been to incorporate guidance on GDPR. The RO guidance contains a

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.

change log at the start of each part which will allow you to see the changes that have been made at a glance.

Supporting resources for both Returning Officers and candidates and agents have also now been published. The resources continue to be linked to from within the core guidance and can also be found underneath the resources section of the relevant guidance part.

Candidates' home addresses

You may be aware that Cabinet Office are currently consulting on draft legislation which, when it comes into effect, will remove the requirement for candidates to have their home addresses published on the ballot paper at the following polls:

- principal area elections
- parish and community council elections
- local authority mayoral elections
- combined authority mayoral elections

It is expected that this legislation will come into effect for the May 2019 polls.

Once the legislation is in place, we will update the guidance and resources, including the nomination packs, to reflect it. We will update you in a future Bulletin when the legislation has been made and the updated materials are available.

.....

The Electoral Commission
3 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8YZ
Tel England: 0333 103 1928

Textphone: 18001 020 7271 0500
infoengland@electoralcommission.org.uk

[**www.electoralcommission.org.uk**](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

© The Electoral Commission 2018