

# electoral administration bulletin

The  
Electoral  
Commission

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Information about updates to our guidance to reflect legislative changes relating to candidates' home addresses.

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Information about changes to Facebook rules, including details of their 'ad authorisation' process.

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



Issue 239 (England) – 26 February 2019

## Candidates' home addresses: legislation and guidance update

Further to [Bulletin 238](#), legislation removing the requirement for candidates to have their home address published on the statement of persons nominated and ballot papers at combined authority mayoral and local mayoral elections has now been made and will apply for all combined authority mayoral and local authority mayoral elections held in England on or after 2 May 2019.

We understand that the legislation.gov website is being updated and when available the links to the amendment rules will be [here](#).

We have updated our guidance for Combined Authority Returning Officers, Returning Officers and candidates and agents to reflect these changes. We have also updated those resources that are affected by the legislation, such as nomination packs and notices.

A full list of the guidance and resources that have been updated can be found [here](#).

### Principal area and parish council elections

We have received several queries relating to the home address form and the accompanying guidance, particularly in relation to the completion of the details of the witness to the consent to nomination. We thought it would be helpful to provide further clarification on this point.

Under the new legislative provisions, the candidate's consent to nomination form still needs to be witnessed, and the witness needs to sign the form accordingly. The full name and address of the witness must be supplied on the home address form. There is no requirement that this information is completed on the home address form by the witness themselves.

We have made some minor amendments to the guidance and the nomination packs to try to make this point clearer.

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## May 2019 polls: public awareness update – voter information resources

In [Bulletin 238](#) we provided an overview of and links to voter registration resources for the May 2019 polls. In addition to these, we have now also produced a suite of voter information resources.

These voter information resources are designed to provide voters with essential information before polling day, such as polling station opening hours and how to find their polling station.

All the resources are available to download from our [Your Vote Matters](#) website.

### Stay up to date

Please subscribe to our voter registration newsletter, [Roll Call](#), to stay up to date with our latest public awareness campaign information. We will also continue to provide updates through the EA Bulletin.

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## May 2019 polls: public awareness update - running ads or 'boosting' your posts on Facebook

Facebook has made some changes around running ads 'related to politics or issues of national importance'.

This definition includes ads which relate 'to any election, referendum or ballot initiative, including "get out the vote" or election information campaigns', and so the changes will apply to posts that you might want to 'boost', such as posts to promote awareness of the May 2019 polls.

You should therefore make sure that anyone running ads or boosting posts on your behalf completes the Facebook 'ad authorisation' process. The process is simple and, once done, your ad will carry a 'paid for by' digital imprint showing those who see it that you funded the ad.

We have completed this process and all Electoral Commission Facebook ads will carry this digital imprint: 'Paid for by Electoral Commission UK'.

You can find more information about the changes and the ad authorisation process by following the link below:

- <https://www.facebook.com/business/help/167836590566506>

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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>)

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