electoral administration bulletin



Issue 249 (Wales) - 2 October 2019

Training seminar for Returning Officers and Electoral Registration Officers

On Friday 27 September the Wales Electoral Coordination Board and the Electoral Commission hosted a training seminar for Returning Officers and Electoral Registration Officers in Wales.

The seminar was well attended with representatives from 20 local authorities in Wales. The event provided an opportunity for ROs / EROs to share knowledge, learn from recent experiences and to consider how prepared they are for the next electoral event.

The Llywydd, Elin Jones AM, and representatives from Welsh Government were also in attendance and provided an update on the progress of the Senedd and Elections (Wales) Bill and the Local Government (Wales) Bill. There were also separate talks from Caroline Turner in Powys on their busy year and from Colin Everett, Chair of the WECB.

We would like to thank all those who attended and contributed to the seminar.

2019 canvass: management information survey

As part of our stakeholder engagement activities throughout the canvass, we will be collecting information from all EROs through a management information survey.

The survey requests data about when you issued HEFs and ITRs, and asks about your plans for following up with those households or individuals yet to respond. It also asks for high-level information relating to personal canvassing and any comments you wish to make on particular challenges you have encountered or any new approaches you have tried that you think have worked well. There is also a question on your approach to publishing notices of alteration as highlighted in <u>Bulletin 247</u>.

The Electoral Commission

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Highlights from the seminar, which took place on Friday 27 September.

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Information about and a link to a survey issued by Cabinet Office.

Electoral Commission's annual report on compliance to the Welsh Language Standards

Information on and a link to the Commission's report on the compliance to the Welsh Language Standards, which was published on 27 September.

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,

Please complete the survey by no later than Friday 18 October.

If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please contact your <u>local Commission team</u>.

May 2020 polls: Cabinet Office survey to assess the likely impact of the May bank holiday

Cabinet Office have put together a <u>short survey</u> to gather information on the likely impact of the May bank holiday change on the cost of the Police and Crime Commissioner elections taking place in May 2020. This survey has previously been circulated by the AEA – you only need to complete this survey once.

The deadline for completion of the survey is **Friday 25 October**.

If you have any questions in relation to the survey, please contact elections@cabinetoffice.gov.uk.

Electoral Commission's annual report on compliance to the Welsh Language Standards

On 27 September, we published our <u>annual report</u> on our compliance to the Welsh Language Standards.

In the report we address in detail our compliance with service delivery, policy making and operational standards that we adhere to. These standards include the level of Welsh language skills of staff, information about any complaints received in regards to our compliance to the Welsh Language Standards, and how we deal with Welsh correspondences and communications that we receive.

This report also celebrates excellence and good practice where we go above and beyond our statutory duties, and how we are working in line with the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 <u>"a million Welsh speakers"</u> strategy.

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Please <u>keep us informed</u> of any staff changes within your team. This will help us to keep our mailing lists up-to-date.

Scotland and Wales are available

If there is a new RO/ERO appointment in your authority, please contact the team in Wales by e-mailing infowales@electoralcommission. org.uk.

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