

e-Counting for the 2017

Scottish Local Government Elections

MONTHLY BULLETIN FROM THE PROJECT TEAM

Issue 01, 19 October 2015

FOR INFO.

- **Bulletin** – this is the first Bulletin aimed at informing the electoral community of progress with e-counting for the 2017 local government elections.
 - As this project develops, further Bulletins will be issued regularly by the e-counting Project Team, whose contact details are on the following page.
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- **Project Governance** – on a day-to-day basis, the e-counting project will be led by a Project Team from the Scottish Government. As we are carrying forward this work in conjunction with the Electoral Management Board, the Team will keep the EMB fully informed of progress on an ongoing basis.
 - At a senior level, the project is being overseen by the Project Board which was formed in late 2014. The Board includes Returning Officers and Depute Returning Officers and is chaired by the Scottish Government's head of Strategy, Elections and FOI, Heather McCauley.
 - To feed into the work of the Project Board, two User Groups work will begin shortly to set up a User Group and a Technical User Group. Further details to follow.
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- **Procurement of an e-counting Supplier** – between May and September 2015 a full procurement exercise took place to identify an e-counting supplier to deliver the 2017 local government elections.
 - Particular thanks are due to the following individuals whose elections experience, expertise - and IT knowledge - brought significant benefits to the evaluation of the tenders submitted:
 - Barbara MacGregor, DRO, City of Edinburgh Council.
 - David Miller, DRO, Glasgow City Council.
 - James Mathieson, Policy, Technology and Improvement, Falkirk Council.
 - At the conclusion of the procurement process, award of contract was made to the company, **CGI IT UK Ltd**. You may be aware that, in August 2012, CGI acquired the company, Logica, who delivered e-counting for the 2012 local government elections. This, therefore, means welcome continuity. Indeed, some of the same key supplier staff will therefore be involved in the project this time.

FOR INFO.

- Our focus between now and the end of the year is work with CGI in carrying out a thorough test of the technical compliance of their e-counting system.
- In January/ February 2016, the e-counting project will move to a phase of **User Trials** when local authority staff will have the opportunity to test the e-counting system. The trials will be carried out in Edinburgh at our Pentland House base, where the majority of the testing was done in preparation for the 2012 elections.
- In the next Bulletin we will provide some further information about the User Trials.

For more information please contact a member of the e-counting Project Team:

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