



## ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR SCOTLAND

**REPORT: e-Counting Project 2017 – Update as at February 2017**

**MEETING: 24 February 2017**

### INTRODUCTION

1. This is the latest update on the status of the preparatory work which is underway in relation to the e-Counting Project 2017. Polling day is now only 68 days from the date of this meeting.

### TRAINING

2. CGI has now completed in-depth training for both Count Centre Managers and Technical Managers. The process of matching staff to authorities will be completed by mid-February, and where possible, the designated staff will attend the relevant authority's training session.

3. The role-based training is commencing on Tuesday 21 February in Aberdeen, with six authorities sending 212 delegates. An estimated 1,100 delegates from the remaining authorities are receiving their training at Pentland House over 17 days between 27 February and 24 March. Six officers from the Electoral Commission, including the Chief Executive and Director of Electoral Administration are attending in an observer role on 10 March.

### PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ROs

4. For the first time this work is being undertaken jointly with the Electoral Commission and requires all ROs to complete and submit a two-stage survey. The first survey was issued on 6 February with a deadline for submission of 17 February. The second stage will be issued in early April. In addition, five ROs have been asked to submit additional material for scrutiny.

### OTHER MATTERS

5. The Board is invited to note the position in relation to:

- Financial arrangements – authorities have now received the first invoice from CGI and the Scottish Government has, in turn, invited them to seek reimbursement before the end of the current financial year. The aggregate net value of the first tranche of invoices is c£2.28m. The second and final tranche of invoices will be issued on 26 May.
- 'Q&A' – this regular, weekly update for ROs and Election Managers is now being issued each Friday and is being well-received by the electoral community.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

6. The Board is invited to:

- Note the current status of the key tasks within the e-Counting Project 2017.

D McGregor,

Edinburgh,

14 February 2017