

eCOUNTING 2022

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 06 – 19 November 2021

Welcome to the sixth project bulletin of 2021.

You will find copies of all Bulletins on the EMB website at [eCounting Bulletins 2022](#)

Info	<p>General</p> <p>In addition to this being circulated to the wider election community please feel free to circulate to others in your wider teams.</p>
Info	<p>Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment Levels – Some discussions between councils and their Fujitsu Regional Managers are ongoing to confirm equipment requirements. It is hoped this will be concluded by the end of this year. • Count Centre Surveys/Visits – Surveys are almost complete. Please use this opportunity to raise any eCounting issues/considerations for your Council. • Easyprint Training Easyprint Training started on Monday 15 November with almost all Councils taking up the offer of training which is progressing well and should be concluded by Thursday 9 December 2022. • Performance Testing The final system performance tests, involving over 150k ballots, will be undertaken on 24 and 25 November in Silvan House, Edinburgh. • Council Q&As The previous successful and well received practice of providing an ongoing Q&As document to councils is being repeated in preparation for May 2022 with the first version of this document accompanying this Bulletin. The Q&A is a fairly detailed document which aims to address all manner of practical questions around eCounting and matters related to it. As time goes on the Q&A will grow (we won't delete items) and this will hopefully provide a useful resource for all ROs and their election teams. • Ballot Paper Account Working Group The recommendations from this group have been sent to the User Group for their views/input. The final outcomes will be included in a future issue of the Bulletin.

<p>Action</p>	<p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booking of Face to Face Training – Your allocated training date and venue will be advised to the User Group next week. • Livestream Recording (End to End System Demonstration) – The on-demand recording will be sent to the User Group within the next couple of weeks.
<p>Info</p>	<p>eCount By-elections</p> <p>Many of you will already be aware there are 4 Scottish Local Government By-election eCounts scheduled to take place by the end of January 2022 which will use the same solution of eCount system as will be used in May 2022. The By-election eCounts are as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday 3 December 2021 at 2pm – Highland Council (Fort William) • Tuesday 14 December 2021 at 10pm – Renfrewshire Council (Paisley) • Thursday 16 December 2021 at 10pm – Argyll & Bute Council (Helensburgh) • Friday 20 January 2021 at 9am – East Lothian (Preston/Seton/Gosford) <p>I am sure you will be interested in the successful delivery of these eCounts and therefore an update will be provided in a future issue of the Bulletin.</p> <p>Forthcoming Briefing Event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 27 January 2022 – Many of you will already be aware the EMB is holding a Joint Seminar with the Electoral Commission for ROs and EROs on Thursday 27 January 2022 which will address a range of issues relating to your planning and delivery of the elections next year. This will build very much on the lessons from May 2021, particularly considering issues of resilience and picking up on some elements where we know improvement is possible. The Electoral Commission will provide more information shortly.

eCounting project team contact details:

Project Manager

Jack Lochans

jack.lochans@gov.scot

07717733460

Policy Lead/Contract Manager

James Newman

james.newman@gov.scot

07468742559

Technical and Assurance Lead

Liz Ure

liz.ure@gov.scot

07769239206

Local Government Liaison

Aileen Knudsen

aileen.knudsen@edinburgh.gov.uk

07912615832