



## **AEA statement on the Electoral Commission report on evaluation of Voter ID pilots**

The Association of Electoral Administrators supports the findings in the Electoral Commission voter ID pilot evaluation report and agree that important questions remain about how an ID requirement would work in practice.

It is of course for government to decide on the final format of any voter ID scheme, but with pilots so far only covering small samples of the population, we expect that any wider roll-out will uncover further learning points which must be acknowledged and taken on board.

To ensure successful implementation of any voter ID scheme, we are calling on government to provide comprehensive support and full funding to electoral administrators and councils. The cost of additional burdens at all polls should be met centrally and, should there be a need for local ID to be issued, any scheme must be administratively feasible and realistically costed.

Finally, we would strongly advise against implementing voter ID for the first time during a General Election. Higher levels of voter registration and turnout would cause significant administrative challenges for both electoral administrators and wider council support teams, and we believe exacerbate the growing issue of falling numbers of experienced polling station staff.

The Commission's report can be viewed [here](#).