Workshop One – Neighbourhood Planning Referendums
Trainers – Frances Cleland and James Pack

There is currently little available guidance to support the delivery of a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum. This workshop will look at what the requirements are and share good practice. It will address common issues such as providing clarification on the timetable and who is responsible for what; how pre-referendum rules should be interpreted; campaign requirements, including whether sitting councillors are able to campaign; and, how to deal with cross boundary NPRs.

Workshop Two – Delivering Canvass Reform
Trainers – Sarah Ling and Gina Jones

Canvass reform will take effect for the 2020 annual canvass. This workshop will focus on the practical issues: how will you deliver the change? What are the key challenges? What needs to put in place now to make implementation easier? How will the three routes work? It will encourage the sharing of ideas and strategies to support you to make the most of the revised processes.

Workshop Three – Common Challenges at the Count
Trainers – Debby Frost and George Cooper

This workshop will address the common challenges faced at the verification and count, such as dealing with disruptive people, security, managing and maintaining audit trails of doubtful ballot papers, providing the provisional result and managing re-count requests. It will also look at specific challenges for May 2020 such as the impact of the moved bank holiday and supplementary vote counts.

Workshop Four - What would you do if...
Trainer – Lea Goddard and Maggie Mulhall

This workshop will use anonymised examples of where things have gone wrong in delivering an election, including electoral registration. With your help, it will look at the appropriate action to take, how to mitigate the risk or issue, where help can be obtained, the importance of maintaining an audit trail, the personal responsibility of EROs/ROs and the effect on core staff. It will encourage the sharing of good practice and look at how issues can be avoided in the first place.