



Electoral Administration Act 2006

2006 CHAPTER 22

PART 6

CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS ETC.

Ballot papers

33 Evaluation of pilots under section 32

- (1) After any elections specified in a pilot order have taken place, the Electoral Commission must prepare a report on the operation of the order.
- (2) The report must contain, in particular—
 - (a) a description of the way in which the provision made by the order differed from the provisions which would otherwise have applied to the election or elections;
 - (b) a copy of the order;
 - (c) an assessment of the success or otherwise of the order in assisting voters to make informed decisions at the election or elections in question;
 - (d) an assessment of the success or otherwise of the order in encouraging voting at the election or elections in question;
 - (e) an assessment of whether the procedures provided for in the order operated satisfactorily.
- (3) An assessment under subsection (2)(c) must include a statement of whether, in the opinion of the Commission, the inclusion of photographs on the ballot paper—
 - (a) assisted voters in marking their papers with a vote for a candidate (or with votes for candidates) for whom they had decided to vote on grounds other than the candidates' appearance;
 - (b) resulted in voters being influenced (or more influenced) by the appearance of candidates in deciding for whom to vote.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Electoral Administration Act 2006, Section 33. (See end of Document for details)

- (4) An assessment under subsection (2)(d) must include a statement of whether, in the opinion of the Commission, the turnout of voters was higher than it would have been if the order had not applied.
- (5) An assessment under subsection (2)(e) must include a statement of—
 - (a) whether the candidates and their agents found the procedures provided for in the order easy to use;
 - (b) whether the returning officer found those procedures easy to administer;
 - (c) whether those procedures had any effect on the incidence of malpractice (whether or not amounting to an offence) in connection with elections;
 - (d) the amount of any increase attributable to those procedures in the resources applied by the authority concerned to the election or elections.
- (6) In making an assessment under subsection (2)(c), (d) or (e), the Commission must also apply such other criteria as are specified in the order in relation to that assessment.
- (7) The local authority must give the Commission such assistance as the Commission may reasonably require in connection with the preparation of the report.
- (8) The assistance may include—
 - (a) making arrangements for ascertaining the views of electors about the operation of the provisions of the order;
 - (b) reporting to the Commission allegations of electoral offences or other malpractice.
- (9) The Commission must, before the end of the period of three months beginning with the date of the declaration of the result of the election or elections in question, send a copy of the report—
 - (a) to the Secretary of State, and
 - (b) to the local authority.
- (10) The local authority must publish the report in their area in such manner as they think fit.
- (11) In this section “pilot order” and “the local authority” must be construed in accordance with section 32.

Commencement Information

II S. 33 wholly in force at 1.1.2007; s. 33 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 77; s. 33 in force at 1.1.2007 by S.I. 2006/3412, art. 3, Sch. 1, (subject to transitional provisions in Schedule 2)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Electoral Administration Act 2006, Section 33.