**Text

Description automatically generatedAction Note**

14:00 7 August 2024

[*[Meeting via Teams](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Y2EwYzIxZWYtMWUxMi00NWM2LWI4MzItMWQ3MmJkNGU1Zjhm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22482a4ef9-66e4-4e76-9f24-6da09a713ed4%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22f6620c1e-0047-4737-9a45-dd9ed0d8a24c%22%7d)*](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZTIzNmM4ODYtZTQzYy00YzRjLWExMjktYWI5M2M1NTAxYWVk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22482a4ef9-66e4-4e76-9f24-6da09a713ed4%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22f6620c1e-0047-4737-9a45-dd9ed0d8a24c%22%7d)

**MEETING ADMIN**

**Attendance / Apologies**

Attendance: Mark Conaghan; Alison Davidson; Mark Adam (GVJB); Peter Hessett; Andy O’Neill; Angus Reid; Karen Greaves; Mark Cooper; Andy Hunter; Catherine Heggie; Jim Savege; Pippa Milne; Kirsty Mavor; Kenneth Pentland; Paul Docker; Maria McCann; Paul Stevenson; Kenneth Lawrie; Robert Nicol

Apologies: Brian Rout

**UK PARLIAMENTARY GENERAL ELECTION 4 JULY 2024**

**Comments from ROs and RO Teams *(circulated****)*

Summary of comments and feedback from ROs and RO Teams presented and discussed. Overall a positive performance but many underlying issues that could have become serious with the clear margin of results masking some of the issues. Issues around timetable, print capacity, postal vote volumes, new ICT systems for EROs, volumes of security advice from UK Government etc all contributed to difficulties experienced. Other issues around VACs, Voter ID in general, cross boundary work etc all noted.

Registration issues for “Hong Kongers”/BNO passport holders noted.

**ACTIONS**

EMB Round table on Print and Postal voting – draft paper shared to be developed and planned ahead of year end.

Best Practice on manual counts – paper discussed, workstream to be developed with product well ahead of SP elections in 2026.

UK Government’s own review of Electoral Registration and Conduct to replace Electoral Integrity programme; plans for OAVA portal.

Hong Kongers – EROs and Electoral Commission meetings planned with the Community to identify issues and resolve for future elections.

**Electoral Commission**

Two reports are in preparation: Voter ID and main report on the conduct of the election overall.

**OTHER WORKSTREAMS**

**Local Government By-elections**

Quarterly Review of by-election support from Fujitsu noted*;* numberof by-elections following resignation of councillors who have been elected as MPs was noted.

**Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill**

Progress of the Bill was noted with a number of amendments expected at Stage 2 including options for the future status of the EMB.

**Electronic Vote Counting for 2027 and subsequent by-elections**

Progress noted with the establishment of Project Board and start of work on preparation of tender documents/evaluation -

**Accessibility Subgroup**

Work had been implemented at UKPGE with the immediate actions workstream and the information on accessibility of polling places via the Democracy Club site; work on audio and tactile options continues with further piloting of tactile device planned. Work has been interrupted by delivery of the UKPGE.