

Returning Officers - Assistance with voting for disabled voters You are in the  
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 - Assistance with voting for disabled voters Ensuring that voting is accessible  
 Raising awareness about the voting process and support available Reviewing the  
 election Reviewing the election After each election you should evaluate the equipment  
 and support provided in polling stations and how you communicated with voters about  
 their needs and what they could expect. To help with your evaluation activities, we  
 have provided a template survey for use with polling station voters who required  
 additional assistance when voting. The survey can be used to gather their feedback on  
 their experience of voting and the support that was made available. survey (DOCX)  
 survey - easy read (DOCX) You should invite feedback from voters and accessibility  
 groups on their experience of voting in polling stations, about what worked well and  
 what didn't, to help inform what you do to support disabled voters at future polls.  
 Mechanisms you could use to gather feedback include: providing an easy read survey at  
 the polling station about the voting experience inviting voters and partnership  
 organisations to attend focus groups to discuss their experiences of voting in the  
 polling station inviting polling station staff to discuss their experience working in  
 a polling station where specific equipment was provided, how they dealt with any  
 difficult situations on the day, and their feedback on the training they received  
 reviewing any feedback provided in reports returned by Presiding Officers and polling  
 station inspectors monitoring the use of the equipment you provide in polling  
 stations by asking polling station staff to keep a record in the polling station log  
 book or via post poll surveys or feedback To ensure you get a wide range of external  
 feedback you should consider providing a range of options for gathering views. A good  
 way of finding out the most appropriate approach to reaching specific groups of  
 voters would be to ask the partnership organisations you work with what would work  
 best for the voters they support. The Elections Act requires the Commission to report  
 on the implementation of the new accessibility provisions. In order to meet that  
 requirement, we will ask you for data on the provision of equipment and support in  
 polling stations which should be information you already have available to support  
 your own planning processes. We will use our engagement and reporting work to  
 highlight examples of good practice that emerge and reflect these in future versions  
 of this guidance to support your work in ensuring voting is accessible. Last updated:  
 5 April 2023 Book traversal links for Reviewing the election Working with local  
 networks and civil society organisations in your area