Returning Officer | Electoral Commission Guidance for Returning Officers administering Local Government Elections in England You are in the Guidance for Returning Officers administering Local Government Elections in England section Home Guidance for Returning Officers administering Local Government Elections in England View the navigation tree Go to main guidance section: Guidance for Returning Officers administering Local Government Elections in England Returning Officer Returning Officer appointment Returning Officer - role and responsibilities Returning Officer - skills and knowledge Resources for Returning Officers - Returning Officer Planning for the election Voter Materials Starting the election timetable Nominations Agents Absent Voting Polling station voting Verification and Count After the election Casual vacancies and by-elections Resources for Returning Officers Returning Officer This section of the guidance covers the appointment of the Returning Officer as well as the roles and responsibilities for those appointed to this post. It also contains guidance on the consequences of the breach of official duty and the legislative powers available to the RO to use in certain circumstances. Additionally, this section also contains guidance on the skills and knowledge that is expected to be required of an RO. Finally, it provides a detailed list of the relevant legislation that the guidance has been written to reflect, and which an RO should be familiar with. Last updated: 4 November 2022 Book traversal links for Returning Officer Guidance for Returning Officers administering Local Government Elections in England Returning Officer appointment