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Objective: Accessible registration and voting You are in the Annual Report and  
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Last updated: 27 September 2023 What we are working to achieve Free and fair  
elections depend on all people who are eligible and want to vote being able to do so.  
With this goal, we are striving to: increase levels of voter registration, especially  
amongst groups that currently have difficulty engaging in the process remove  
barriers, especially those that affect people who currently have difficulty trying to  
cast their vote. We are working to achieve these outcomes through collaboration with  
policy makers and other partners to identify barriers to participation and propose  
solutions. We are directly supporting people who have difficulty engaging in the  
process, with tailored accessible information and learning resources, and targeted  
public awareness activity. United Response quote We greatly valued being able to feed  
in to the guidance for to ensure that these changes were made as accessible as  
possible for disabled people. United Response Work done to achieve this Our latest  
evidence shows that between 8-9 million people in Great Britain are either missing or  
incorrectly registered. As well as advocating for registration reform, ahead of the  
elections, we ran a voter registration campaign to encourage the public to ensure  
they were correctly registered ahead of the deadline. This was supported by our Your  
Vote is Yours Alone campaign, which raises awareness of voter fraud and how voters  
can protect their vote. Planning and implementing measures in the Elections Act has  
been a priority for the Commission. The legislation includes measures that impact  
voters directly, some of which came into force at the 2023 local elections taking  
place in parts of England. Ensuring voters are aware of the changes is fundamental to  
supporting their confidence and participation in our electoral system. We prepared  
for the introduction of the voter ID requirement. In January, the Commission launched  
a wide-reaching public awareness campaign aimed at raising awareness of the  
requirement and reminding the public to bring it with them when they voted. Our work  
helped voters understand which forms of ID can be used and supported those without an  
accepted form of ID to understand how and when to apply for free ID. We worked with  
local councils and civil society organisations to support those less likely to have  
an accepted form of ID, so that they were aware of the free ID and applied in time.  
The Commission ran a thorough consultation on the new accessibility measures before  
drafting its guidance, working closely with charities and organisations representing  
disabled voters. We also shared details with disabled voters of the new accessibility  
rules, which increase the range of assistance available to them in the polling  
station. Within the scope of our role, we continued to work with local authorities,  
police, and parliamentarians to protect the system against electoral fraud. This  
included running, with the National Police Chiefs Council, the annual conference of  
Single Points of Contact within police forces that lead on fraud, and engaging with  
Lord Hayward on his secrecy of the ballot Private Members' Bill. These campaigns and  
voter communication around the Digital Registration Number, helped to support the  
successful delivery of the local elections in Northern Ireland. Our learning work  
aims to promote greater consistency in political literacy education and increase  
political knowledge and understanding amongst young people. Over 220 schools signed  
up to take part in Welcome to Your Vote Week in January. Lee Rowley There are few  
tasks more important in public life than maintaining the trust of the British public  
in our electoral institutions and our electoral processes. A huge amount of work is

under way, and that will continue until May. I am grateful to officials, to the Electoral Commission and to councils up and down the land for the work that they are doing. Lee Rowley, UK minister responsible for elections, February 2023 Performance indicators Indicator Target 2022-23 Additions to electoral registers during our voter registration campaigns meet or exceed our targets 379,810 for 2022/2023 280,498\* The target for voter registration was not met this year. There are a number of factors that could have negatively impacted this KPM, some of which were external and some relate to the campaign including target setting itself. Notably, there was a reduction in campaign spend ahead of these elections and in the early awareness-raising phase. Since the polls, we have reviewed all data to ensure ongoing efficacy of our advertising, and our target-setting processes, to take these insights into account in planning future campaigns. Ongoing and future work We will be evaluating the May 2023 public awareness campaigns for voter ID and registration, to identify learnings and opportunities for improvement. We will be refreshing the creative approach to our voter registration campaign in time for the May 2024 elections. With the support of civil society partners, we will evaluate the tailored information we co-created for each key group most likely to be impacted by the new voter ID requirements. This will include refining resources to make them suitable for future years and identifying any gaps in our provision. In the autumn, we will publish election reports for England and Northern Ireland, reflecting on how the May 2023 elections were run and recommending changes where necessary. This will include an assessment of the implementation of the new voter ID and polling station accessibility provisions. We will work to prepare voters, administrators and the wider electoral community for further changes coming from the Elections Act, including updating guidance for those responsible for implementing the changes. This will include an extension to the franchise through changes to the overseas voter rules. We will pilot the inclusion of accessibility information as part of the online election information we provide, including our online polling station finder. This will further reduce pressure on local councils. If successful, we will roll this out throughout the UK. We will continue to extend our 'youth voice' work, building on our current activity in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to ensure our work on registration and voting reflects the needs and views of young people. We will continue to maintain contingency plans for unscheduled electoral events, including a UK Parliamentary general election and a Northern Ireland Assembly election. We will finalise development of feasibility studies on a range of flexible voting options, exploring how new ways of voting could be implemented. We expect to appear before the Levelling Up Committee to expand on our written evidence for its inquiry examining voter registration, and will outline our proposals for reforming the system. EC quote The current registration system does not work well for voters or administrators. To ensure all eligible voters can have their say at elections, the registration system needs to be reformed. Our written evidence to the Levelling Up Select Committee Navigation Previous Next Performance analysis Objective: transparent political campaigning and compliant political finance