

ELECTORAL FRAUD POLICY

The Electoral Office has a zero tolerance approach to electoral fraud. Such fraud, in whatever form, is corrosive of public confidence in the democratic process. The Electoral Office will do everything that is reasonably practicable to deter and to detect electoral fraud. All persons suspected of electoral fraud will be reported to the police for investigation with a view to prosecution.

For the purposes of this policy a person commits electoral fraud when they make an oral or written statement which they know to be false for the purpose of registering as an elector, obtaining an electoral identity card, obtaining an absent vote whether for themselves or another, becoming a candidate or election agent or in connection with election expenses.

Whenever a member of Electoral Office staff has reason to believe that any person has committed an electoral fraud they must immediately report the matter to the Chief Electoral Officer. The report should be accompanied by any supporting documents including CCTV recordings and details of the time and date on which any relevant telephone conversations took place.

The Chief Electoral Officer will consider all such reports. If satisfied that there is prima facie evidence of an offence by an identified or identifiable individual he will report the matter to the police with a request that they investigate the matter.