

Dear

Thank you for your request for information from EONI.

1. This is an FOI request relating to Electoral Roll data for councils in Northern Ireland. I would appreciate it if any information can be provided on a council by council basis. Approximately what percentage of the Electoral Roll was carried forward from the 2008 Full Electoral Roll to the 2009 Full Roll? This would relate to those households which were previously registered on the Full Electoral Roll and which had not sent an updated canvass form for the next year or been successfully contacted through doorstep canvassing. If you do not have the exact figures please provide your best estimate.

A. In Northern Ireland registration and the running of elections is the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland and his staff in the Electoral Office. Councils do not compile and maintain the Electoral Register.

The system of registration is different in Northern Ireland. Individual registration was introduced in Northern Ireland in 2003 and the carry forward was abolished. The annual canvass was abolished in 2006. Questions 1 and 4 on your list therefore do not apply to Northern Ireland.

2. What year did you introduce a pre-tick on the canvass form for electors who had previously opted out of the Edited register? Please provide copies of any correspondence regarding the introduction of this pre-tick, either internally or with the Information Commissioner's office (ICO) and the Association of Electoral Administrators (AEA).

A We have never used a pre-tick on a canvass form.

3. Since 2002 have you ever pre-ticked a canvass form by default for people who have not previously opted out of the Edited Electoral Roll in the preceding year, such that if those people who were previously included in the Edited Electoral Roll do not cross out that pre-printed tick when returning the canvass form they are then opted out of the Edited Electoral Roll?

A We have never used a pre-tick on a canvass form.

4. Please provide figures for the number of two year non responders who have been removed from the Full Electoral Roll (FER)?

A This question does not apply to Northern Ireland.

5. In addition I would like to know if you have any evidence of electoral malpractice or electoral misadministration and whether any such allegations were made to the police or prosecutions carried out.

A Could I have more information on this question? Are you asking for evidence of electoral malpractice in relation to registration and is there a specific timescale?

Regards

Assistant Chief Electoral Officer (Registration).