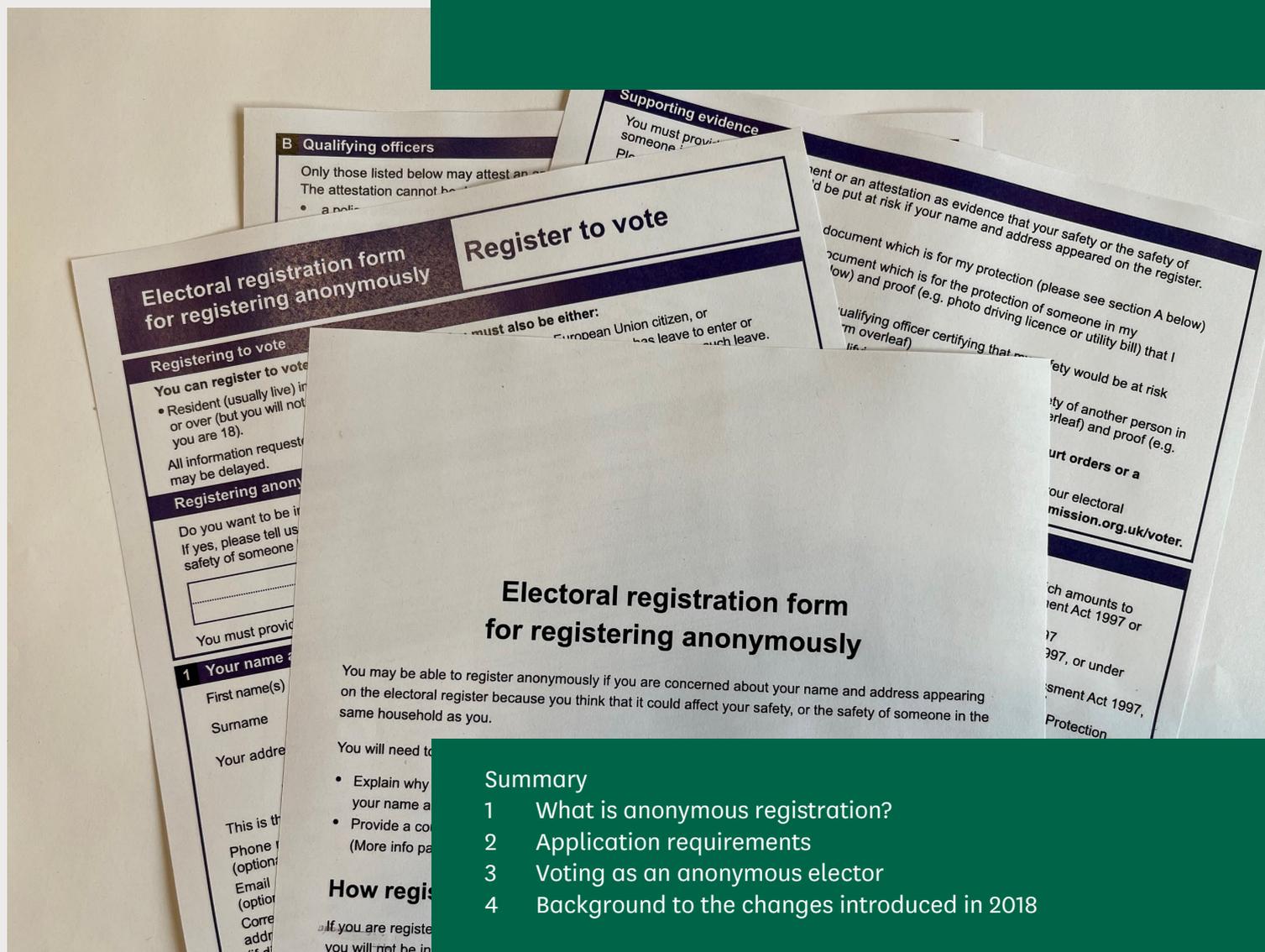


Research Briefing

4 August 2025

By Neil Johnston

Anonymous electoral registration



Summary

- 1 What is anonymous registration?
- 2 Application requirements
- 3 Voting as an anonymous elector
- 4 Background to the changes introduced in 2018

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Summary

[Electoral registers](#) are public documents that are open to inspection.

Anonymous registration allows people whose safety would be at risk if their name or address were listed on the electoral register to register to vote without their details made public, for example survivors of domestic abuse.

An application must be submitted to an electoral registration officer in writing and must provide certain evidence that the person applying is at risk. Anonymous registration currently must be renewed annually. In July 2025, the UK Government [announced plans](#) to extend the registration period saying annual renewal created an unnecessary burden on applicants.

The required evidence must be either:

- A current court order including an interdict, non-harassment order, a forced marriage protection order, an injunction, a restraining order or a domestic violence protection order or a female genital mutilation protection order.

The types of order or injunction are set out in law, therefore other types of court orders cannot be accepted as evidence.

Or:

- An attestation from a qualifying officer supporting the application. An attestation is a statement that if the applicant's name and address were on the register, the applicant's or another member of the household's safety would be at risk. Attestations must be in writing and must be signed and dated by the qualifying officer who must specify a period between one and five years for which it has effect.

A qualifying officer must be a refuge manager, registered medical practitioner (for example GP, nurse or midwife), a senior social worker, a police officer above the rank of Inspector or the Director General of the Security Services or the National Crime Agency

Woman's Aid provides guidance issued by the Electoral Commission on anonymous registration. It is available for download on its web page, [Anonymous registration for survivors of domestic abuse](#).

This briefing lists the types of court order and qualifying officers in Section 2.1. They are also available on the paper registration application form for anonymous registration.

The system for registering anonymously was introduced in 2006. The level of evidence had been criticised by some for making anonymous registration too difficult or complex for many. Women's Aid criticised the system, saying that for women living in a refuge it was "an almost insurmountable challenge" to register to vote as many women did not involve the courts and the very senior levels of qualifying officers meant that it was difficult for survivors to access them.

In 2018 changes were introduced that were aimed to make anonymous registration more accessible for those that needed it. This followed a consultation in March 2017, [A democracy that works for everyone: survivors of domestic abuse Policy Statement](#), which contained proposals to extend the number of court orders that could be used as evidence and increasing the number of people able to act as qualifying officer.

1 What is anonymous registration?

Anonymous registration is a special category of electoral registration. It allows people whose safety would be at risk if their name or address were listed on the electoral register, for example survivors of domestic abuse, to register to vote but without their details appearing on the full or open electoral register. It also applies to someone living in the same household as the person applying.

Full electoral registers are open to inspection on request and can also be made available to certain organisations or individuals, subject to strict conditions on its use. The open electoral register is available for sale to anyone. The open register is a version of the electoral register with names of people who have not opted out of being on the open register. Library briefing, [Electoral registers and access to them](#), sets out more detail.

A standard entry on the electoral register will give the person's name, address and their elector number.

Until 2006 there were no provisions for individuals to register anonymously.

Anonymous registration was introduced by section 10 of the [Electoral Administration Act 2006](#).¹ The detailed rules are set out in secondary legislation. There are three statutory instruments covering the three legal jurisdictions of the UK.²

All voters are required to give basic personal information to their local Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) so that the ERO can check that they are eligible to register to vote. This includes a National Insurance number.

In addition, applicants wanting to register anonymously must provide evidence to satisfy the ERO that their safety or that of any other person in the same household would be at risk if their details were made public (see Section 2).

Unlike other electoral registration applications, applications for anonymous registration are not open to inspection at any time.

For those registered anonymously their details will not be disclosed on the electoral register and they are automatically opted out of the open register.

¹ This inserted new sections (9B and 9C) into the [Representation of the People Act 1983](#)

² The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001 - SI 2001/341, Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 2001 - SI 2001/497, and Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2008 - SI 2008/1741.

For anonymous entries, only the elector number and the letter 'N' are shown at the end of the relevant part of the electoral register after other special category electors, under the heading 'Other electors'. Other special category electors, those registered through a declaration of local connection, service voters and overseas electors, are grouped and listed alphabetically.

The ERO will not provide details of anonymously registered voters to anyone unless they are legally required to do so. Access to anonymous registration forms will be tightly restricted, with many authorities keeping hard copy only applications in a locked cabinet and only a small number of senior members of the team able to access these records. Practical arrangements vary between local authorities but some EROs insist that all staff dealing with electoral data are DBS checked.

Anonymous registration does not affect any other special category elector entitlement and can be combined. For example, a person may be an anonymous elector with a local connection if they meet the relevant criteria for both.

1.1 How many anonymous registrations are there?

In December 2024 there were 2,670 anonymously registered electors in Great Britain. The numbers have declined since 2019, when the peak was 3,550.³

³ Electoral Commission, [Size of the electoral registers in 2024](#), May 2025

2

Application requirements

An application for anonymous registration must be in writing. Those wishing to register anonymously cannot use the Government's online voter registration portal.

The written application must be signed and dated by the applicant and must contain:

- the applicant's full name
- their address
- the reason for their application
- documentary evidence to support their application (see below)
- evidence that an applicant lives in the same household if the applicant is someone who lives in the same household as someone whose safety would be at risk. Evidence could be a utility bill, bank statement, or photocard driving licence
- evidence that that person's safety would be at risk if the applicant is someone who lives in the same household as someone whose safety would be at risk
- a declaration that the evidence to support their application is genuine so far as the applicant is aware - if it is someone who lives in the same household, the person to whom the evidence relates lives in the same household and that, as far as they are aware, the evidence is genuine - the other information given is true.

The form is available from the Electoral Registration Officer at the local council or can be downloaded from the [Voter registration forms](#) section of the gov.uk website.

The applicant can choose to have correspondence delivered to an alternative address but must provide an address where they live (which could include a refuge) to fulfil the residence requirement for electoral registration. The address will be kept confidentially by the ERO and will not be published or disclosed. It is not possible to be registered by virtue of a PO Box address.

Annual renewal

Once successful an anonymous electoral register entry lasts for 12 months and must be renewed annually. They may remain as an anonymous voter if

the court order provided as evidence is live on the day of renewal or if a qualifying officer attests that they qualify.

The UK Government released a [policy paper on elections](#) in July 2025. It said:

The current requirement to reapply every year to remain anonymous places an unnecessary burden on these people, and so we will amend the anonymous registration rules to extend the length of the anonymity period, meaning they no longer have to reapply annually.⁴

The policy paper gave no indication of what extension the government is likely to propose.

2.1

Evidence

The evidence required to support an anonymous registration application is set at a high benchmark. This was done because anonymous registration was designed to protect those whose safety would be at risk and not for those who simply wanted to keep their name and address private.

The evidence must be either:

- a live court order or injunction from a set list of orders and injunctions; or
- an attestation about the risk to their safety made by a qualifying officer.

These are set out below.

Court orders

- an injunction for the purpose of restraining a person from pursuing any conduct which amounts to harassment granted in proceedings under section 3 of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- an injunction granted under section 3A(2) of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- a restraining order made under [section 5\(1\)](#) of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 or section 360 of the Sentencing Code
- a restraining order on acquittal made under section 5A(1) of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- a non-harassment order, interdict or interim interdict made under section 8 or 8A of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997

⁴ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, [Restoring trust in our democracy: Our strategy for modern and secure elections](#), July 2025, paragraph 86

- a non-harassment order made under section 234A(2) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995
- a non-molestation order made under section 42(2) of the Family Law Act 1996
- an injunction for the purpose of restraining a person from pursuing any conduct which amounts to harassment granted in proceedings under article 5 of the Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997
- a restraining order made under article 7 of the Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997
- a restraining order on acquittal made under article 7A(1) of the Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997
- a non-molestation order made under article 20(2) of the Family Homes and Domestic Violence (Northern Ireland) Order 1998
- a matrimonial interdict within the meaning of section 14 of the Matrimonial Homes (Family Protection) (Scotland) Act 1981
- a domestic interdict within the meaning of section 18A of the Matrimonial Homes (Family Protection) (Scotland) Act 1981
- a relevant interdict within the meaning of section 113 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004
- an interdict that has been determined to be a domestic abuse interdict within the meaning of section 3 of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011
- any interdict with an attached power of arrest made under section 1 of the Protection from Abuse (Scotland) Act 2001
- a forced marriage protection order or interim forced marriage protection order made under any of the following provisions—
 - Part 4A of the Family Law Act 1996
 - section 2 of, and paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to, the Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007
 - section 1 of the Forced Marriage etc (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011
 - section 5 of the Forced Marriage etc (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011
- a domestic violence protection order made under section 28 of the Crime and Security Act 2010 or section 97 of, and paragraph 5 of Schedule 7 to, the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2015

- a female genital mutilation protection order made under section 5A of, and paragraphs 1 or 18 of Schedule 2 to, the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003.

The list of court orders has been added to since the original list. The Government keeps the list under review.

The Government is to add to the list of court orders a domestic abuse protection order within the meaning of section 27 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 when the provisions in section 27 have been brought into force. This will apply for Parliamentary electoral registers and for local electoral registers in England and Northern Ireland. This is being implemented using secondary legislation.⁵ The parliamentary and local government registers are technically separate. Competence for devolved elections in Scotland and Wales (which use the local government registers) has been devolved to the devolved administrations and Parliaments. Separate amending regulations will be required to make the same adjustment for anonymous local government electoral registration in Scotland and Wales.

Attestation from qualifying officers

An attestation is a declaration that something is true or a statement by someone certifying that something is the case.

The attester must state in writing an applicant, or of another named person of the same household as him, would be at risk if the register. It should be signed and dated. It should also state the period for which it has effect, being a period of between one and five years from the date of signature.

The list of qualifying officers who may attest that someone should qualify for anonymous registration is:

- a police officer of or above the rank of inspector
- the Director General of the Security Service
- the Director General of the National Crime Agency
- any director of adult social services in England within the meaning of section 6(A1) of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970
- any director of children's services in England within the meaning of section 18 of the Children Act 2004
- any director of social services in Wales within the meaning of section 144 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

⁵ Details are contained in Part 9 of the Voter Identification Regulations 2022, which at the time of writing were waiting for approval from both Houses of Parliament.

- any chief social work officer in Scotland within the meaning of section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968
- any director of social services of a Health and Social Services Board established under article 16 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972
- any executive director of social work of a Health and Social Services Trust established under article 10 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991
- any registered medical practitioner
- any registered nurse or midwife
- any person who manages a refuge where “refuge” means accommodation together with a planned programme of therapeutic and practical support for victims of, or those at risk of, domestic abuse or violence

3

Voting as an anonymous elector

In Great Britain people with an anonymous entry on the electoral register may vote in person or chose to use an absent vote (a postal or proxy vote). This is the same as other registered electors.

Poll cards sent to anonymous voters will only include their elector number, and not their name and address. Anonymous voters must take their polling card to the polling station.

Polling station staff will be able to find the corresponding elector number at the end of the electoral register used in the polling station, under 'other electors'. Anonymous electors do not need to give their name and address to vote, and the polling station staff should not ask for them.

In Northern Ireland, anonymous electors may only vote by post or by appointing a proxy. They may not vote in person.⁶

3.1

Voter ID

New rules in Great Britain introduced from May 2023 mean anyone wanting to vote in person in local elections in England, police and crime commissioner elections in England and Wales, or in a UK Parliamentary election must provide photographic voter ID before being issued with a ballot paper.⁷ These rules do not apply for local and devolved elections in Scotland and Wales.

The list of required ID for electors is set out on the Electoral Commission's [Voter ID requirement](#) website.

Voters who are registered anonymously **must** show an Anonymous Elector's Document in a polling station.

If someone is already registered as an anonymous voter, or they register to vote anonymously, they will be invited to apply for an Anonymous Elector's Document by their local council.

An Anonymous Elector's Document has the words 'Elector's Document' written on the top, and does not refer to someone's status as being registered to vote anonymously.

⁶ Electoral Office for Northern Ireland, [Application for anonymous registration](#) (PDF)

⁷ Library briefing, [Voter ID](#)

An Anonymous Elector's Document includes:

- the date of issue
- a photograph
- the electoral number
- a serial number generated by the electoral registration officer

A private area will be available at polling stations so people can choose to have their Anonymous Elector's Document viewed in private.

4 Background to the changes introduced in 2018

Campaigners had been critical of the high level of evidence needed to apply for anonymous registration.

Women's Aid, an organisation that supports survivors of domestic abuse, had been campaigning with Mehala Osborne, a survivor, to broaden the list of evidence people could use to prove that they were at risk:

Women's Aid and Mehala want to see the list of evidence that survivors can use become much wider and, at a minimum, include evidence of a refuge stay, a letter from a GP or other health professional and other types of evidence from the police. We want professionals working in specialist domestic abuse organisations to be 'Qualifying Officers' who can sign letters of support.⁸

Women's Aid highlighted in their [Impact Report](#) of 2016-17 that fewer than half of domestic abuse survivors involved the police.⁹ This meant many could not provide the required court order or injunction or an attestation from a senior police officer.

It was also difficult for women to gain access to the very senior people needed to attest to an application for anonymous registration, such as directors of social services or must the Director General of the Security Service, or National Crime Agency. Sian Hawkins, campaigns manager for the charity, said that for women living in a refuge it was currently "an almost insurmountable challenge" to register to vote as "These are not the kind of people that survivors of domestic abuse come into contact with in everyday life".¹⁰

4.1 Review and policy statement

In 2016, the Cabinet Office announced it was to review the anonymous registration framework with a review to make it simpler. Chris Skidmore, then Parliamentary Secretary at the Cabinet Office, responded to a question from Marie Rimmer MP, about helping victims of domestic violence to register anonymously:

⁸ [Women's Aid Right to Vote campaign](#).

⁹ Women's Aid, [Impact report 2016-17](#), p16

¹⁰ [Guardian, Registering to vote anonymously to be made easier](#), 7 September 2016

The Government are determined that those whose personal safety would be at risk if their details appeared on the register should be able to register anonymously. I have arranged to meet representatives from Women's Aid to discuss concerns they may have over the process of anonymous registration and have also written to my right hon. Friend the Minister for Women and Equalities to set out our plans to look at regulations on this important policy.¹¹

The Minister repeated the commitment to work with Women's Aid and others in a [speech in October 2016](#) and at a meeting with Women's Aid Scotland [in November 2016](#).

Policy statement

In March 2017, the Cabinet Office published a policy statement on updating the anonymous registration regime. The policy statement invited feedback on the proposals. The document indicated the intention to:

- update the list of court and other orders that are acceptable as evidence of the risk to an applicant's safety, to reflect new orders which have been added to the statute book
- lower the seniority required of attestors from both the police and social services
- seek feedback on changing the requirement that court orders used as evidence must be live
- seeking suggestions on how reducing the burden of annual renewals might be achieved.¹²

4.2

Proposals

In September 2017 the Cabinet Office published a response to the feedback received.¹³

Court orders and other documentary evidence

The March 2017 proposals included adding to the list of court and other orders listed in Regulations that are acceptable as evidence of the risk to an applicant's safety to include include:

¹¹ [HC Deb 7 Sept 2016, c318-9](#)

¹² Cabinet Office, [A democracy that works for everyone: survivors of domestic abuse Policy Statement](#), March 2017

¹³ Cabinet Office, [A democracy that works for everyone: survivors of domestic abuse - response to policy statement](#), September 2017

- domestic violence protection notices (DVPNs) and domestic violence protection orders (DVPOs) and
- female genital mutilation (FGM) protection orders.

The proposals also asked about adding other types of documentary evidence, including:

- relevant unspent court convictions for a domestic abuse-related offence
- criminal proceedings or evidence of bail for a domestic abuse-related offence
- court undertakings relating to domestic abuse
- court findings of fact that domestic abuse has taken place
- relevant police cautions for domestic abuse
- evidence that someone has been granted indefinite leave to remain in the UK as a victim of domestic violence
- evidence that someone has been granted legal aid in private family proceedings on domestic violence grounds.

In the September 2017 response document, the Government stated that few respondents addressed this issue in detail. On the range of court orders, the Government confirmed that it would add domestic violence protection orders (DVPOs) and female genital mutilation (FGM) protection orders to the list of appropriate court orders.

However, it concluded that domestic violence protection notices (DVPNs) should not be added as these are only given for a maximum of 48 hours and unlikely to fulfil the requirement for a court order to be 'live'. It did note that the majority of DVPNs are converted into DVPOs, which could then be used.

The Government had asked for feedback on removing the requirement for a court order or injunction to be live order at the point of application and replacing it with a time limit on the use of spent orders or injunctions. The Government decided against any change.

The Government noted that the safety test prescribed in primary legislation states that evidence must demonstrate that an individual's safety is currently at risk. This meant that allowing spent court orders could lead EROs to question whether a court order that was spent some time ago is sufficient to demonstrate that an individual's safety is currently at risk. The Government considered also setting a time limit on how long a spent order could be considered being would be arbitrary. For similar reasons the Government concluded that extending the 12-month renewal period could call in to question whether the individual's safety was currently at risk.

Although recently spent court orders would not be sufficient on their own to provide evidence of a current risk, the Government noted that they could be helpful, in combination with other considerations, in helping a potential attester to decide whether someone is at risk.

On the issue of adding to the types of documentary evidence, the Government decided not to include the other types of documentation suggested. It concluded that while the potential evidence listed would serve to prove that the individual has been a victim of domestic abuse or violence, it did not necessarily prove that the individual's safety would be currently at risk if their name and address were to appear on the electoral register. It went on to say:

The Government recognises that many survivors of domestic violence or abuse never feel truly safe even long after any relevant court orders or other criminal evidence has expired. But it hopes that through the extended list of qualified attestors these individuals will more easily be able to explore other routes to access the scheme.¹⁴

Attestors

The March 2017 policy statement included the proposals to expand the list of qualifying officers who could provide evidence by attestation the Government proposed by:

- lowering the seniority required from the police from superintendent to inspector level
- lowering the seniority required from the social services from director of social services to social worker
- adding additional professions to the list of those who can attest including health professionals, domestic abuse refuge managers, domestic abuse advocates, Independent Domestic Violence Advocates or Advisors (IDVAs) or Independent Domestic Abuse Advocates (IDAAs) and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) chairs.

The Government reported that feedback on this proposal was mixed. General support was shown for the expansion of the number of people able to attest, especially for the lowering of the police rank.

Women's Aid commented that victims of domestic abuse are frequently in contact with healthcare professionals, and with the managers of refuges, and that these individuals are therefore well positioned to be able to attest whether an individual's safety is at risk. The Royal College of General Practitioners and the Royal College of Midwives, indicated their support for the proposals.

Concerns were expressed by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and the Association of Directors of Children's Services

¹⁴ Cabinet Office, [A democracy that works for everyone: survivors of domestic abuse - response to policy statement](#), September 2017, para 26

(ADCS) in their joint response, as well as by local authorities about the lowering the seniority of social workers required to attest. Some noted that hierarchies of social workers differed and that lowering the seniority of eligible attester to “social worker” would mean that pressure is put on individuals to attest who are not in a reasonable place to make that judgement, either being newly qualified or having minimal contact with the individual they are being asked to attest for.

The Government response of September 2017 confirmed that it intended to lower the seniority required from the police from superintendent to inspector level: “Inspectors are generally the police force leads for domestic violence and are therefore in close contact with the issues faced by victims and survivors”.¹⁵

However, the Government noted the concerns raised related to social workers and therefore not lower the seniority from Director of Social Services.

The Government confirmed that certain health and medical professionals would be added to the list of qualified attestors. The draft Orders required to implement the changes (see 3.1 below) stated that medical and healthcare professionals registered with the General Medical Council (GMC), or Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) may act as qualifying officers for the purposes of an attestation.

Domestic abuse refuge managers were also be added but there did not need to be a direct connection between the applicant and the refuge. The Association of Electoral Administrators raised concerns that refuge managers are not members of professional bodies, meaning that Electoral Registration Officers cannot readily check them against an accredited list in the same way as other attestors which had the potential for electoral fraud. The Government concluded that refuge managers among the best placed to attest as to the risk to a person’s safety but committed to working with the AEA to address concerns.

Including [refuge managers] in the list of possible attestors will improve the accessibility of those resident in a refuge being able to register to vote anonymously at the refuge in which they are resident. In addition, refuge managers are frequently a first point of contact for victims escaping domestic violence and abuse, often before they have reached out to the police or social services. Their inclusion will therefore serve to improve the accessibility of the scheme, especially for those who have only recently escaped abuse but also for all those who pass through a refuge on their journey to safety.¹⁶

The draft explanatory memorandum accompanying the draft Orders to implement this change expanded slightly on the requirements for refuge managers:

In practice, an attestation from a refuge manager should show the name of the refuge, the local authority, and the broad geographical region it covers. The

¹⁵ As above, para 17

¹⁶ As above, para 31.

Electoral Registration Officer can then confirm that the refuge is registered on the 'Routes to Support' directory, a UK-wide online database of domestic abuse services. The Electoral Commission will be responsible for producing guidance to also encourage refuge managers to include direct contact details so the Electoral Registration Officer can contact them if required.¹⁷

The Government also decided not to include IDVAs, IDAAs or MARAC chairs to the list of those who can attest. While recognising that they were well placed to attest to the risk faced by an individual, the Government considered that the addition of healthcare professionals in direct contact with victims of domestic abuse better improved the accessibility of the scheme.

4.3 Implementing the changes

On 19 December 2017 three draft statutory instruments were laid before Parliament. These three regulations made the necessary adjustments to the anonymous registration scheme in the three legal jurisdictions of the UK to ensure the same changes to anonymous registration are introduced across the United Kingdom. They all amended the relevant earlier Orders. They were subject to the affirmative resolution procedure and had to be approved by both Houses of Parliament.

The House of Commons agreed all three draft Orders on 20 February 2018.¹⁸ They had been considered by the Delegated Legislation Committee on 3 February 2018.¹⁹ The House of Lords Grand Committee considered the draft Orders on 27 February 2018,²⁰ and formally agreed on 1 March 2018.²¹

The Orders were then formally made and came into force on 1 July 2018.²²

The Scotland Order made provisions for the anonymous registration of voters in respect of the register of UK Parliamentary electors. Legislative competence in respect of the local government register is devolved and Scottish Ministers took forward equivalent changes in respect of the local government register in Scotland, with the intention that the changes come into force at the same time.²³ These were made by the [Representation of the](#)

¹⁷ [Draft explanatory memorandum to the draft Representation of the People \(England and Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations](#).

¹⁸ [HC Deb 20 February 2018, c128-30](#)

¹⁹ See General Committee Hansard for [3 February 2018](#).

²⁰ [HL Deb 27 February 2018, c48-58GC](#)

²¹ [HL Deb 1 March 2018, c770](#)

²² [Representation of the People \(England and Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#) (note the text of secondary legislation on the legislation.gov.uk website is not updated to show subsequent amendments), the [Representation of the People \(Scotland\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#), and the [Representation of the People \(Northern Ireland\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#)

²³ Chapter 3 of the Scottish Government publication, [Consultation Paper on Electoral Reform](#), 19 December 2017 explained the proposed changes to anonymous registration.

[People \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2018](#) after being approved by the Scottish Parliament.

The England and Wales Order made provision for anonymous registration in respect of both the register of Parliamentary electors and the register of local government electors. Legislative competence for the local government register were due to transfer to Wales once the relevant parts of the Wales Act 2017 had been commenced. In advance of their commencement, the UK Government, with the agreement of Welsh Government, made the necessary changes to the anonymous registration for the register of local government electors in Wales in the draft Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations.²⁴

²⁴ [Draft explanatory memorandum to the draft Representation of the People \(England and Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations.](#)

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