

Briefing for GP Committee

EU Referendum – 23 June 2016

Will Tuckley – Chief Executive/Counting Officer
Louise Stamp – Head of Electoral Services

EU Referendum 2016

- Delivered successfully under immense pressure
- Tower Hamlets Voting Area – RCO for London
- All staff employed were trained – online training for POs/PCs and reserves
- Polling Station Inspectors received dedicated training
- Count staff facilitated training with counting of ballot papers
- High volumes of registration and absent vote applications
- Registration applications from 1 April – 9 June 2016
 - Online – 43,130
 - Duplicates – 7,402 (17.2%)
 - Deletions = 10,557 (24.48)

Planning and Management

- The planning, management and implementation of two major elections in a seven week period presented a major challenge for the Electoral Services team
- Election plans and contingency/risk registers in place
- Registration – extended registration period due to online system crash affected determination dates
- Postal vote applications – highest number ever, but lowest rejection rate (4.6%)
- Staffing – difficulty finding experienced staff available during holiday period and Ramadan
- No allegations of electoral malpractice or alleged fraud

Local Practices

- Joint working/planning with Council services, local Police and Met Police
- Local Police Officers present at every polling place from 7am – 10:30pm
- Exclusion Zones marked to avoid intimidation/crowds
- Hourly line marked across the corresponding numbers list to assist police with any allegations of personation
- 6+ electors checks two weeks before the referendum to ensure an up-to-date register is used at polling stations
- Registration days at Idea Stores and regular local newspaper advertisements to promote awareness

Polling Day – 23 June 2016

- Polling Day: Thursday 23 June 2016 – Floods (am) deployment of emergency contingency plans
- 75 polling places – 104 polling stations across the borough
- Eligible electorate = 167,820 (no European Union citizens)
- Postal Voters – 31,211
- Postal vote return – 77.23%
- Postal vote rejection rate – 4.6%
- Proxy Voters – 1,204
- Overseas electors – 2,027

Floods



The King
@BowEThree



 Follow

[@TowerHamletsNow](#) #Flood in Hamlets Way next to cemetery & new building works. New building Dust = blockage in sewage



4:02 PM - 23 Jun 2016

Floods



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@TowerHamletsNow Hamlets Way E3 Completely Flooded as women and children try to get home from school!



EU Referendum Count

Count code of conduct for candidates, agents and guests
Police presence at count venue

Count held at:

- East Wintergarden, Canary Wharf
120 count assistants and 30 supervisors
Turnout – 64.6%
Declaration – 04:05am (24 June 2016)
Remain – 73,011 votes (67.5%)
Leave – 35,224 votes (32.5%)

London results and declaration times (with handout)