Cabinet Office

Confirmation Evaluation

An evaluation of 'confirmation' – using data matching to confirm electors on the electoral register – in Great Britain

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Ministerial foreword

The electoral register is a key building block of our democracy. The Government sees both registering to vote and voting as civic duties and we strongly encourage people to do both. The introduction of Individual Electoral Registration (IER) in Great Britain this year has seen a major change in how people register to vote. Applying to register is now more convenient, taking no more than five minutes on www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. Since June more than three million people have applied to register this way. It is also now an individual responsibility to register to vote, and new applications must be verified before they are added to the register, to help improve confidence and trust in the electoral register.

Confirmation is a standalone exercise that involves data matching the names and addresses of records on Electoral Registration Officers' (EROs) current electoral register against data held by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It is a key part of the transition to IER, allowing EROs to passport those existing electors who are successfully data matched onto the first IER register – this will simplify the transition for the vast majority of people. This exercise replicates in the live environment the dry run exercise that all EROs took part in during summer 2013.

Confirmation commenced on 12 June 2014 in England and Wales with all EROs participating. In Scotland, the transition started after the Independence Referendum on 18 September so that these two important events did not overlap and potentially cause confusion for electors. An interim evaluation report on live confirmation in England and Wales was published in October finding that 79 per cent of electors matched against DWP. This result has not altered with the inclusion of Scottish authorities. Once confirmation using local data is taken into account, the final results indicate that of 46.7 million electors in the 380 Local Authorities in Great Britain, 40.5 million (87 per cent) were confirmed through DWP Confirmation and, where employed, local data matching activities. This means that for the vast majority of electors, the experience of moving to the new system has not required them to do anything under IER unless their circumstances change (e.g. they move house). This means that the risk of a drop in the electoral register is significantly reduced.

There is still a lot of work to do. The 13 per cent of electors who were not confirmed are being invited and encouraged to apply by EROs over the autumn; those who applied to register to vote at the last household canvass will have until at least the end of 2015 to get on the register under the new system. There are also new electors

and people moving house to get onto the register before next year's General Election. The results of the Confirmation exercise however are encouraging that the transition to IER is proceeding as planned.

Sam Gyimah,

Minister for the Constitution, November 2014

Chapter 1
Introduction

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 presented a major change to the electoral registration system by introducing Individual Electoral Registration (IER) in Great Britain in order to modernise the electoral registration system and tackle fraud. IER replaced the existing system of household registration from 10 June 2014 in England and Wales and from 19 September 2014 in Scotland. The previous system of electoral registration was based on an annual household canvass sent to each address, which was completed by one individual on behalf of everyone who lived in the house. Under this new system, electors are asked to register individually and are required to provide identifying information such as National Insurance Numbers (NINOs) and dates of birth which will be checked ('verified') before the individual can be added to the electoral register.

A key Government aim is to ensure the electoral register remains as complete and accurate as possible under IER. The Cabinet Office have conducted a series of data matching pilots since 2011 and these identified the use of data held by the DWP to confirm individuals currently on the electoral register without requiring them to provide personal identifiers – these people can be 'passported' across to the new system. This will allow electoral administrators to focus their limited resources on the minority of electors who cannot be confirmed as well as those currently not registered.

Pilots conducted in 2011 suggested that 66 per cent of existing electors might be confirmed using this process. However, those pilots did not set out to test confirmation and so further pilots were undertaken in 2012 to specifically test data matching for the purposes of confirmation and to check the accuracy of the data. These pilots found that around 70 per cent of electors could be confirmed. The pilots also found that the vast majority of electors who were matched in the pre-canvass register (95 per cent) were subsequently confirmed as resident at the same address during the annual canvass – showing that we can be confident in the accuracy of the data.

The confirmation pilots in 2012 took place in fourteen areas and were a chance to develop the matching algorithm – working with both technical experts at DWP and five 'beacon' local authorities – and test the accuracy of the data. They were not, however, able to fully test the IER Digital Service as it was not operational ready. The data were therefore transferred to and from the pilot areas by secure courier and

were sent as CSV files rather than via reports within Electoral Management Software (EMS) – meaning that EROs were required to analyse the data independently as opposed to using reporting functionality in their software.

The confirmation dry run (CDR) was conducted the summer of 2013 as an opportunity to test a fully IT enabled dry run of the confirmation process ahead of it happening in a live environment in 2014.

Results from the evaluation conducted for CDR showed that 78 per cent of electors matched, higher than achieved by previous pilots, and that local data matching had the potential to add an average of 7 per cent. This report (available with full data sets) can be accessed at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/evaluation-confirming-electors-through-data-matching.

Confirmation is a standalone exercise that involves data matching the names and addresses of records on EROs' current electoral register against data held by the DWP. It is a key part of the transition to IER, allowing EROs to passport those existing electors who are successfully data matched onto the first IER register. CLR replicates in the live environment the CDR exercise and is a key tool in aiding the transition to IER.

Confirmation commenced on 12 June 2014 in England and Wales with all EROs participating. In Scotland, the transition was delayed until after the Independence Referendum on 18 September so that these two important events did not overlap and potentially cause confusion for electors. An interim report on England and Wales was published in October 2014 and can be accessed (available with full data sets) at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/using-data-matching-to-confirm-electors-interim-evaluation.

This report summarises the results of this Confirmation process across Great Britain. Chapter 2 outlines the confirmation process with a focus on the evidence collated for evaluation purposes. Chapter 3 presents the results of matching against data held by DWP within an extract of the Customer Information System data (DWP –CIS data). Chapter 4 presents the results of Local Data Matching where undertaken. Final results are given in Chapter 5, Chapter 6 presents indicative write-out figures and Chapter 7 concludes. Annex A displays the templates for CLR Monitoring Reports. Annex B outlines any issues around data reporting. Supplementary tables and figures are given in Annex C.

It should be noted that all percentages presented in this report have been rounded.

Chapter 2
Methodology

Confirmation commenced on 12 June 2014 in England and Wales and on 19 September 2014 in Scotland with all Local Authorities (LAs) participating. The Cabinet Office, Electoral Commission and EMS providers provided guidance to administrators on how to conduct their Confirmation process and interpret their results. Figure 2.1 sets out the process.

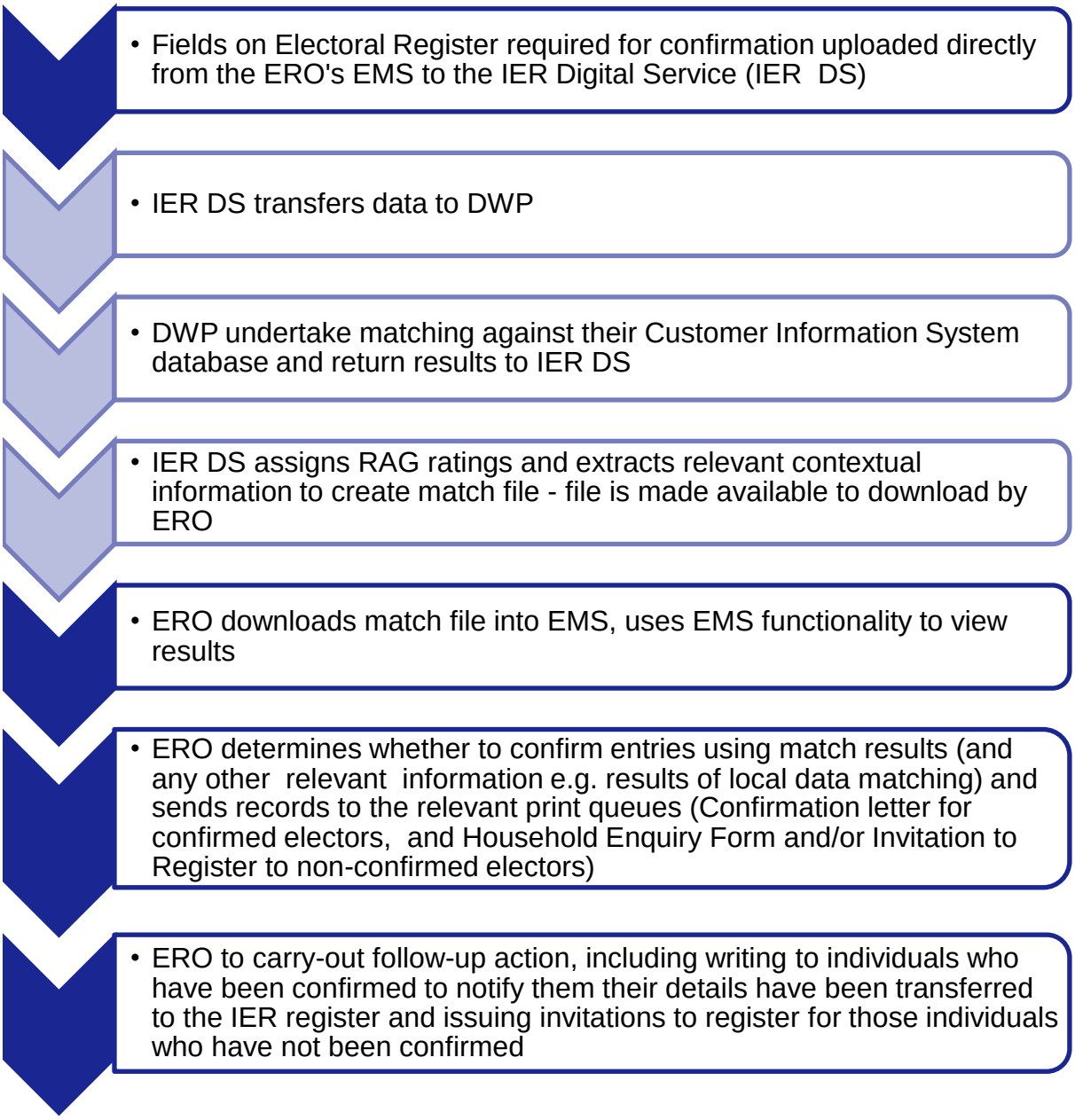
Each Local Authority uploaded the required fields from their Electoral Register as provided by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (Transitional Provisions) Order 2013 (S.I. 2013/3907), as amended by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (Transitional Provisions) (Amendment) Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/449).

The schedule made use of the CDR results and aimed to allocate an earlier slot to those who had achieved lower match rates under CDR to allow additional time for local data matching and writing out to a large number of electors designated Not Confirmed. Once uploaded, the Registers were matched against DWP data and the results, detailing the overall Red/Amber/Green (RAG) status applied to each record, made available for download to Electoral Management Software (EMS) systems.

A Green match indicated a positive result, Amber indicated a possible match and a Red match indicated that no match could be found. Additional contextual information was provided, such as an individual RAG status for the address and identity component of each record and details of the fields on which the record was matched (such as first name or middle initial), to give an insight as to why a record was allocated a particular rating.

Electoral administrators had the option of conducting additional local data matching (LDM) if they chose. This had the potential to confirm additional electors, assigned a Red or Amber rating through national data matching, using local sources of data such as council tax or housing benefit databases. They could also check Green matches if they chose to.

Fig. 2.1: Outline confirmation process



Notes: Steps in light blue require no action from the ERO.

Reporting

Reports, laid out according to Cabinet Office (CO) designed templates[1], were produced within the EMS and sent to CO (and subsequently the Electoral Commission (EC) for their independent evaluation) to provide statistics on match rates, broken down by elector type (attainers, postal voters, proxy voters and carry-forward electors) and by wards and polling districts. Additional reports were sent where an administrator had conducted local data matching to detail the number of electors confirmed through this activity and the data sources used.

[1] See Annex A

There were three areas of reporting completed by EROs:

- CLR Monitoring Report 1 (Overall Statistics)
- CLR Monitoring Report 2 (Optional Local Data Matching)
- CLR Monitoring Report 3 (Optional Local Data Matching Sources)

EROs were requested to run the CLR Monitoring Report 1 prior to conducting any local data matching activities[2] and to submit it within ten working days of receiving their match report. EROs were requested to run and submit the CLR Monitoring Report 2 and CLR Monitoring Report 3 within ten working days following the conclusion of any local data matching activity.

As part of CLR Monitoring Report 1 and CLR Monitoring Report 2, Local Authorities were asked to provide figures for the number of letters to be sent to electors in each Ward and Polling District. Chapter 6 reports our analysis of this data.

It was requested that separate reports be submitted for each LA however South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, in England, were only able to submit a joint report and the majority of reports from Scotland were submitted by Valuation Joint Boards (VJBs) representing groups of authorities. By assigning data at ward level to the correct local authority, we are able to provide LA level statistics for Scottish authorities[3] when looking at all electors[4]. There are 9 regions within England, and 14 VJBs across Scotland, amongst which the LAs are distributed. Details are given throughout on the granularity and base used for all statistics and Table 7.1 in Annex C gives descriptive statistics for geographical breakdowns. Annex B gives further information on reporting limitations.

[2] Some Local Authorities were only able to submit their CLR Monitoring Report 1 after completing local data matching activities.

[3] This was not possible for the two English LAs submitting a joint report due to data discrepancies described in footnote 5.

[4] The number of attainers, postal, proxy and carry-forward electors achieving each RAG rating was not collected at ward level.

Chapter 3
Match Results from DWP matching

This chapter presents the match rates achieved through confirmation against an extract of data from the DWP CIS system, giving the results for whole of Great Britain, followed by breakdowns by different regions and area types[1] as well as by elector type.

The results are as provided by authorities in the CLR Monitoring Report 1[2], indicating the number and proportion of electors assigned to each RAG rating following confirmation. The impact of LDM is not taken into account at this stage and therefore results do not reflect the final numbers of confirmed electors for the majority of LAs. Where possible, these final confirmation rates are included in tables in this chapter for ease of reference[3].

It should be noted the match rates achieved are not a reflection of the work of Electoral Service Managers (ESMs) or their teams. The authorities have different populations, turnovers and other demographic characteristics which affect the outcome of confirmation therefore match rates should not be interpreted as performance-related.

All Electors post-DWP Matching

A total of 46.7 million records were submitted for confirmation against DWP CIS data, with 36.9 million (79 per cent) of these rated Green, 1.4 million (3 per cent) rated Amber and 8.3 million (18 per cent) rated Red.

The Green match rate varied by area with Wales achieving the highest rate at 81 per cent, England reaching 79 per cent and Scotland 75 per cent (see Table 3.2).

These match rates compare favourably to those achieved under the dry run of confirmation in 2013 where 78 per cent of electors in Great Britain were rated Green. While England and Wales both experienced a higher rate this year, (previously 78

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[1] Rural Urban classifications are not available for Welsh Local Authorities. Rural Urban classifications for English Local Authorities use data provided by ONS (see http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/products/area-classifications/2011-rural-urban/index.html). Classifications for Scotland are estimated based on information taken from Urban Rural Classification 2009-2010 Population Tables, General Register Office for Scotland.

[2] See Chapter 2 for an overview of data collected in CLR Monitoring Reports.

[3] For further information on final confirmation rates see Chapter 6.

per cent and 80 per cent respectively) Scotland's Green match rate declined very slightly (by 0.1 percentage point). Scotland has, however, seen the greatest increase (5 per cent) in number of register entries submitted for matching and these additional entries (almost 192,000) form the majority (75 per cent) of those added across Great Britain. This is likely to be a result of additional registrations to enable participation in the Scottish Independence Referendum. As such, while registers may be more up to date, a slight time lag in updating the DWP – CIS database could mean electors' details do not match.

All regions in England, with the exception of London, achieved a Green match rate between 80 and 83 percent. The London region reached just 70 per cent however this is in line with the dry run of Confirmation where 69 per cent received a Green match. In fact, the Green match rate for most regions in England increased by 1 percentage point (ppt) from the dry run exercise to the live run of confirmation this year. The South West and West Midlands regions showed slightly more improvement with a 2 percentage point increase in the Green match rate.

It should be noted that the match rates are greatly improved once the impact of local data matching is taken into account. This reflects the fact that, in areas of high population turnover, Local Authorities have access to more current information than is available at a national level.

For English Local Authorities excluding the two submitting a joint report (as each LA has a different rural urban classification), the total Green match rate for Rural areas was higher (82 – 83 per cent) than for Urban areas (76 – 80 per cent). The difference between rural and urban areas in Scotland was less marked with 76 per cent and 75 per cent respectively (see Table 3.2).

Table 3.1: DWP Match Results for All Electors by Region

Region	DWP-Red	DWP-Amber	DWP-Green	Base[4] Electors, 000s	Base LAs	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)[4]
England	18%	3%	79%	40,119	326	87%
East Midlands	16%	2%	82%	3,466	40	88%
East of England	16%	2%	82%	4,500	47	89%
London	25%	5%	70%	5,925	33	81%
North East	15%	2%	83%	1,983	12	89%
North West	17%	2%	81%	5,365	39	87%
South East	18%	3%	80%	6,618	67	87%
South West	16%	3%	80%	4,121	37	88%
West Midlands	16%	2%	82%	4,191	30	89%
Yorkshire and The Humber	17%	2%	81%	3,952	21	87%
Scotland	19%	6%	75%	4,239	32	86%
Ayrshire VJB	17%	4%	80%	304	3	84%
Borders VJB	17%	6%	77%	94	1	84%
Central VJB	15%	3%	82%	229	3	91%
Dumfries & Galloway VJB	14%	6%	80%	120	1	90%
Dunbartonshire, Argyll & Bute VJB	19%	8%	73%	227	3	87%
Fife VJB	18%	3%	79%	299	1	88%
Glasgow VJB	28%	10%	62%	483	1	78%
Grampian VJB	19%	5%	76%	452	3	88%
Highland and Western Isles VJB	17%	7%	75%	212	2	83%
Lanarkshire VJB	17%	2%	80%	525	2	89%
Lothian VJB	22%	6%	72%	664	4	85%
Orkney & Shetland VJB	17%	8%	75%	36	2	90%
Renfrewshire VJB	16%	7%	77%	267	3	85%
Tayside VJB	20%	5%	74%	329	3	88%
Wales	16%	3%	81%	2,305	22	89%
Great Britain	**18%**	**3%**	**79%**	**46,664**	**380**	**87%**

[4] The base given is the number of records processed during confirmation against DWP records. The base for the percentage confirmed post DWP and LDM will differ slightly due to amendments to registers.

Table 3.2: DWP Match Results for All Electors by Rural Urban Classification

Classification	DWP-Red	DWP-Amber	DWP-Green	*Base*[5] *Electors, 000s*	*Base LAs*	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)[4]
England						
Rural	**15%**	**3%**	**82%**	**15,235**	**156**	**89%**
Rural 50-80%	*15%*	*3%*	*83%*	*5,628*	*47*	*89%*
Significant Rural	*15%*	*2%*	*82%*	*5,464*	*55*	*84%*
Rural 80%+	*15%*	*3%*	*82%*	*4,143*	*54*	*89%*
Urban	**20%**	**3%**	**78%**	**24,682**	**168**	**85%**
Other Urban	*17%*	*2%*	*80%*	*6,041*	*58*	*87%*
Large Urban	*18%*	*2%*	*79%*	*5,368*	*39*	*87%*
Major Urban	*21%*	*3%*	*76%*	*13,273*	*71*	*84%*
Scotland						
Predominantly Rural	**17%**	**7%**	**76%**	**855**	**9**	87%
Predominantly Urban	**20%**	**5%**	**75%**	**3,385**	**23**	86%

The average (mean) Green match rate for LAs was 80% and the median 82%; most authorities had a match rate greater than the mean (see Table 3.3). Figure 3.1 shows the distribution of the DWP Green match rates achieved by LAs and the upwards shift in final Confirmation rates once LDM is taken into account.

Table 3.3: Summary Statistics of DWP Match Results and Final Confirmation Rate (post LDM) for All Electors at Local Authority Level

	DWP-Red	DWP-Amber	DWP-Green	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)
Minimum	11%	1%	48%	61%
Maximum	41%	13%	87%	97%
Mean	17%	3%	80%	88%
Median	15%	2%	82%	89%
Base[6] *LAs*	379	379	379	379

[5] The base given is the number of records processed during confirmation against DWP records. The base for % Confirmed post DWP and LDM will differ slightly due to amendments to registers.

[6] While 380 LAs are included in these figures, because two authorities submitted a joint report which we were unable to separate, the base used in calculating these summary statistics is 379.

The Green match rate for LAs varied from 48 per cent in Kensington and Chelsea to 87 per cent in both Dudley and Blaby. Table 3.4 provides the highest and lowest Green rated authorities. Of the twelve authorities with the lowest Green match rates, ten are in London, which is an area likely to have high population churn. In the other two areas, Oxford and Cambridge, match rates could be explained by the student population as students have previously been identified as a group less likely to be confirmed.

Figure 3.2 shows the distribution of Green match rates achieved by LAs through DWP confirmation along with the new distribution once Local Data Matching is also taken into account, which is further to the right due to the higher rates achieved.

Fig. 3.1: DWP Match Results for All Electors and Final Confirmation Rate (post LDM) Distributions by Local Authority

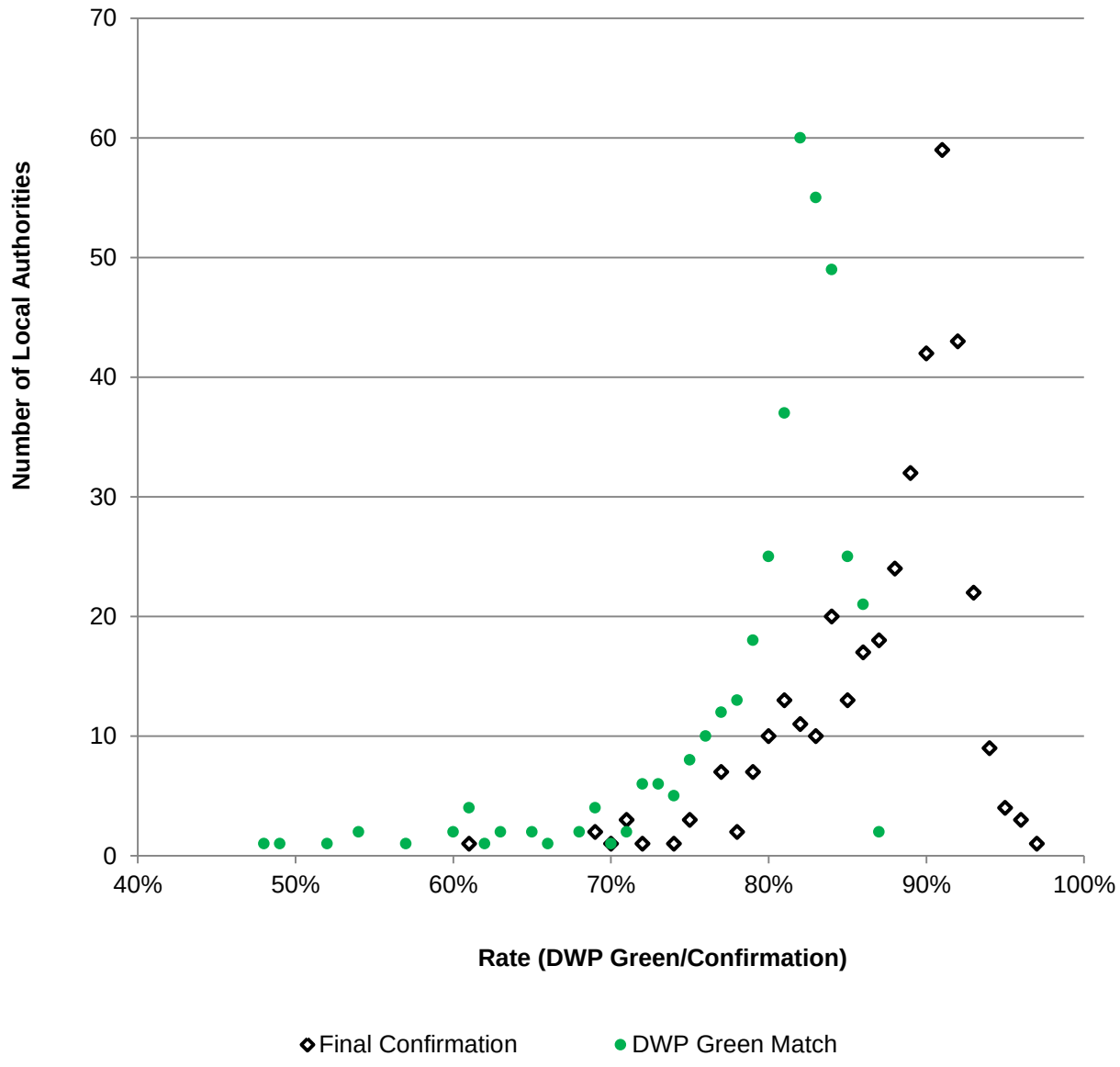

Table 3.4: Lowest and Highest Local Authority Green Match Rates

Authority	Region	Area Classification	DWP-Green	Base Electors, 000s	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)
Kensington & Chelsea	London	Major Urban	48%	107	71%
Westminster	London	Major Urban	49%	139	81%
Camden	London	Major Urban	52%	155	79%
Hammersmith & Fulham	London	Major Urban	54%	131	82%
City of London	London	Major Urban	54%	7	75%
Lambeth	London	Major Urban	57%	225	77%
Oxford	South East	Other Urban	60%	113	71%
Islington	London	Major Urban	60%	156	77%
Wandsworth	London	Major Urban	61%	234	80%
Hackney	London	Major Urban	61%	177	61%
Cambridge	East of England	Other Urban	61%	94	71%
Haringey	London	Major Urban	61%	177	72%
North East Derbyshire	East Midlands	Rural 50-80%	86%	80	93%
Havant	South East	Large Urban	86%	94	93%
Barrow	North West	Other Urban	86%	52	95%
Ashfield	East Midlands	Other Urban	86%	91	92%
Broadland	East of England	Significant Rural	86%	97	86%
St. Helens	North West	Major Urban	86%	137	94%
Rotherham	Yorkshire & The Humber	Large Urban	86%	198	93%
Tamworth	West Midlands	Other Urban	86%	58	89%
South Tyneside	North East	Major Urban	86%	116	91%
Rochford	East of England	Large Urban	86%	66	94%
Blaby	East Midlands	Large Urban	87%	74	95%
Dudley	West Midlands	Major Urban	87%	242	94%

There were 8,699 wards listed in CLR Monitoring Report 1 across Great Britain of which 16 had no register entries for DWP matching. The remaining 8,683 contained 46.2 million electors which is just under half a million fewer than, or less than 1 per cent of, the LA level count, as explained by the exclusion of five LAs and by data discrepancies[7].

[7] Though the number of electors at ward level is fewer than at LA level, aggregating from this level results in the same RAG rates as aggregating from LA level.

The Green match rate for wards ranged from less than 1 per cent to 91 per cent with an average of 80 per cent (see Table 3.5). There were 121 wards with a Green match rate below 50 per cent[8]. Wards with the lowest match rates are given in Table 3.6. Again, match rates tend to improve once local data matching is taken into account.

Table 3.5: Summary Statistics of DWP Match Results and Final Confirmation Rate (post LDM) for All Electors at Ward Level

	DWP-Red	DWP-Amber	DWP-Green	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)
Minimum	8%	<1%	<1%	7%
Maximum	96%	26%	91%	100%
Mean	16%	3%	80%	88%
Base Wards	*8,683*	*8,683*	*8,683*	*8,677*

We know that many of the wards with the lowest Green match rates have a large student population (see Table 3.6). Students have previously been identified as a group who are less likely to confirm.

Table 3.6: Wards with the Highest and Lowest DWP Green match rate with Final Confirmation Rate (post LDM) for All Electors

Local Authority	Ward	DWP-Green	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)
Lancaster City Council	University	<1%	100%
Oxford City Council	Holywell	7%	7%
City Of York	Heslington	11%	11%
Newcastle Under Lyme	Keele	15%	16%
Oxford City Council	Carfax	18%	24%
Tendring	Burrsville	91%	95%
West Berkshire	Westwood	91%	96%
Mansfield	Manor	91%	94%
King`s Lynn and West Norfolk	South Downham	91%	96%
Gravesham	Riverview	91%	96%

[8] Excluding those with zero electors, and without rounding of match rates.

Post-DWP Match Results by Elector Type

An overview of the different match rates for different elector types is given in Table 3.7, below. The following sections provide further analysis of the results for different elector types.

Table 3.7: DWP Match Results by Elector Type with Final Confirmation Rate (post LDM)

Elector Type	DWP-Red	DWP-Amber	DWP-Green	*Base Electors, 000s*	Base, LAs[9]	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)
All Electors	**18%**	**3%**	**79%**	**46,664**	**380**	**87%**
Attainers	51%	2%	47%	383	374	49%
Postal Voters	12%	3%	86%	7,157	372	92%
Proxy Voters	18%	4%	77%	32	371	84%
Carry-Forward Electors	45%	4%	52%	1,203	305	44%

Attainers post-DWP Matching

Across Great Britain, 382,729 attainers' records were matched against DWP data (greater than the 298,023 during the dry run of confirmation) and as a result, 47 per cent of these were assigned a Green rating, 2 per cent an Amber rating and 51 per cent a Red rating. The DWP Green match rate has fallen from the dry run match rate of 85 per cent to 47per cent. There is no obvious reason why this has happened, although given the small numerical size (less than 1 per cent of all electors or around 1,000 per LA) and temporary nature of the group, there could have been a very high degree of change in its composition between the dry run and the live run of Confirmation.

While previous pilots, including the dry run of confirmation, have indicated that Attainers are more likely to confirm once on the register these results appear to contradict this with a DWP Green match rate lower than that for all electors.

The Green match rate was particularly low across Scotland (31 per cent) with just one VJB exceeding 50 per cent, while Wales reached 48 per cent and England 52 per cent. The North East and East Midlands regions achieved the highest rates (59 per cent and 58 per cent respectively).

Postal Voters post-DWP Matching

Just over 7 million Postal Voters, an average of around 19,000 per LA, were matched against DWP data, 86 per cent of which were assigned a Green rating, 3 per cent an Amber rating and 12 per cent a Red rating. In the dry run of confirmation, the Green

[9] Five LAs are excluded from our analysis of match rates for different elector types. Areas where zero electors are reported in the category are excluded from analysis and the resulting bases are given throughout. Note that some Scottish authorities submitted reports at VJB level and these cannot be disaggregated to LA level for different elector types. We can report averages as we know the number of LAs within each VJB. However, it is possible that an LAs with zero electors in a category could be included as it is disguised by being grouped with other, non-zero, LAs.

match rate was slightly lower at 85 per cent though at the time 7.7 million postal voters were matched.

Some regional variation is apparent with a Green match rate of 80 per cent in Scotland compared to 86 per cent in England and 87 per cent in Wales. Of the ten LAs[10] with the lowest match rates for Postal Voters, eight were London authorities. The other two were The Isles of Scilly in South West England and Glasgow in Scotland. St. Helens, and Redcar & Cleveland both achieved the highest Green match rate of 93 per cent.

Proxy Voters post-DWP Matching

Almost 32,000 Proxy Voters, an average of just 86 per LA, were matched against DWP data and, as a result, 77 per cent of these were assigned a Green rating, 4 per cent an Amber rating and 18 per cent a Red rating. Proxy Voters in Scotland had the lowest Green match rate (74 per cent) followed by Wales (77 per cent) while England stretched slightly higher at 81 per cent.

During the dry run of confirmation, far fewer (16,890) Proxy Voters were processed however the Green match rate has not changed.

The small numbers of Proxy Voters mean care should be taken when looking at results for more granular areas. For example, while sixteen LAs achieved 100% Green match rates, each area contained less than fifteen Proxy Voters.

Carry-Forward Electors post-DWP Matching

It is important to note that Carry-Forward electors are treated differently to other elector types in that they are not confirmed following matching. For more information, please refer to Annex B.

Just over 1.2 million Carry-Forward electors, across 305 LAs (an average of around 4,000 each) were matched against DWP data. As a result 52 per cent of these were assigned a Green rating, 4 per cent an Amber rating and 45 per cent a Red rating.

The Green match rate was lowest in Scotland (43 per cent), followed by England (52 per cent) and highest in Wales (57 per cent). The DWP Green match rate for carry-forward electors is lower than that for all electors. We would expect this as by their nature, carry-forward electors' details are less likely to be current given they have not responded to a canvass in a longer period of time.

These results are similar to those from the dry run of confirmation, where 1.8 million Carry-Forward electors were processed of which 53 per cent were assigned a Green match rating.

[10] These include just those reporting at LA level. While those reporting at VJB level all achieved a Green match rate of at least 76%, low scoring LAs could be disguised by a high overall VJB match rate.

Chapter 4
Match Results post-Local Data Matching

Local Data Matching is not mandatory and some LAs may have chosen not to focus their resources on this if they had already achieved a high DWP match rate. Where LDM activities were conducted and reported, the number of electors to be confirmed could change.

Local Data Matching was conducted by 363 LAs[1] however the results for five LAs are excluded and one further LA was unable to provide CLR Monitoring Reports 2 and 3.

Using data from CLR Monitoring Report 2, we will first report on the subset of LAs conducting and reporting LDM. As such, the rates given indicate the proportion of electors who are designated each outcome, following DWP matching and LDM, for this group of LAs.

We will provide final figures on the proportion of electors who were confirmed for all LAs in Chapter 5. Supplementary Tables and Figures are given in Annex C.

All Electors Post-Local Data Matching

The 357 LAs conducting and reporting LDM comprised 43.8 million electors[2]. Following LDM, 87 per cent of these were Confirmed, 13 per cent Not Confirmed, and less than 1 per cent Undecided[3]. Prior to LDM, 79 per cent of electors in these LAs achieved a Green rating following confirmation against DWP data alone. As such, the impact of LDM on this subset of LAs conducting such activities was an increase in the proportion of electors confirmed of 8 percentage points.

Wales achieved the highest Confirmation rate (89 per cent) while the England and Scotland both reached 87 per cent.

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[1] it is assumed that LDM was carried out against the registers for all 20 LAs contained within 7 VJBs reporting at VJB level.

[2] This figure is the total number of electors allocated final designations of Confirmed, Not Confirmed and Undecided. The number of electors within this subset of LAs changed between CLR Monitoring Report 1 and CLR Monitoring Report 2, the total records matched against DWP for the latter being 428 higher than the former however the DWP Green match rate remained constant at 79 percent. Furthermore, within CLR Monitoring Report 2, the number of electors allocated final designations of Confirmed, Not Confirmed and Undecided was 9133 fewer than the number allocated a DWP RAG rating. See footnotes within supporting Excel files.

[3] Undecided electors were not assigned as Confirmed or Not Confirmed at the time of reporting.

The highest Confirmation rate of 97 per cent was achieved in Epping Forest. The lowest (70 per cent) was in Reading[4]. The greatest increase in the proportion of electors confirmed was 32 percentage points in Westminster (see Table 4.1). Eight LAs experienced a decrease in the proportion of electors confirmed following LDM and one, Reading[4], saw no change.

Table 4.1: Summary Statistics of Outcomes for All Electors in LAs conducting LDM, LA Level

	Confirmed	Not Confirmed	Undecided	Percentage Point (ppt) change % DWP Green to % Confirmed
Minimum	70%	3%	0%	-5 ppt
Maximum	97%	30%	5%	+32 ppt
Mean	88%	12%	<1%	+8 ppt
Median	90%	10%	0%	+8 ppt
Base LAs	*357*	*357*	*357*	*357*

Ward Level

There are 8,324 wards in the subset of LAs conducting LDM, of which twenty-three had no electors designated an outcome in CLR Monitoring Report 2. The remaining 8,301 contained 43.8 million electors. The number is slightly less than that at LA level (by 138 electors) however aggregating from ward level results in the same rates as aggregating from LA level.

The Confirmation rate for wards ranged from 7 per cent to 100 per cent with an average of 88 per cent (see Table 4.2). There were 34 wards with a Confirmation rate below 50 per cent[5].

Table 4.2: Summary Statistics of Outcomes for All Electors in LAs conducting LDM, Ward Level

	Confirmed	Not confirmed	Undecided
Minimum	7%	0%	0%
Maximum	100%	93%	19%
Mean	88%	12%	<1%
Base	*8301*	*8301*	*8301*

The impact of LDM varies ward by ward as shown in Table 4, which lists the wards with the lowest DWP Green match rate. In areas where the impact is large, for example the University ward in Lancaster City Council where the confirmation rate has gone from less than 1 per cent post DWP matching alone to 100 per cent following LDM, it is clear that the LA had access to full records on the registered

[4] Note that while Reading conducted and reported LDM, it appears that only a very small numbers of records were matched against local data sources.

[5] Excluding those with zero electors, and without rounding of match rates.

population, in this case, University Listings, which allowed all registered electors to be confirmed.

Table 4.3: Wards with the lowest DWP Green match and the impact of LDM

Local Authority	Ward	% DWP-Green	% Confirmed (post DWP and LDM)	*Base* Electors
Lancaster	University	<1%	100%	2,798
Oxford	Holywell	7%	7%	4,120
City Of York	Heslington	11%	11%	4,818
Newcastle Under Lyme	Keele	15%	16%	3,402
Oxfordl	Carfax	18%	24%	4,413
Ceredigion	Aberystwyth-Canol/Central	20%	32%	1,838
Cambridge	MARKET	23%	28%	6,707
Liverpool	Central	24%	34%	13,876
Manchester	City Centre	25%	48%	13,912
Durham	Elvet and Gilesgate	27%	33%	6,862

Post-LDM Results by Elector Type

An overview of the different match rates for different elector types is given in Table 3.7, below. The following sections provide further analysis of the results for different elector types.

Table 4.4: Outcomes by Elector Type in the subset of Local Authorities conducting LDM

Elector Type	Confirmed	Not Confirmed	Undecided	*Base Electors, 000s*	Base, LAs[6]
All Electors	87%	13%	<1%	43,839	357
Attainers	50%	50%	<1%	337	357
Postal Voters	93%	7%	<1%	6,796	355
Proxy Voters	84%	16%	<1%	29	353
Carry-Forward Electors[7]	43%	57%	<1%	1,103	286

[6]Areas where zero electors are reported in the category are excluded from analysis and the resulting bases are given throughout. Note that some Scottish authorities submitted reports at VJB level and these cannot be disaggregated to LA level for different elector types. However, it is possible that an LAs with zero electors in a category could be included as it is disguised by being grouped with other, non-zero, LAs.

[7] Note that confirmed Carry-Forward electors are treated slightly differently to other electors (see Annex B).

Attainers

As a result of both DWP matching and LDM, 50 per cent of attainers, in the subset of LAs conducting and reporting LDM, were confirmed.

The match rate was particularly low across Scotland (35 per cent) whereas in Wales and England a higher proportion, 56 per cent and 59 per cent respectively, of attainers were confirmed.

Considering just those areas where reports were submitted at LA level, the greatest increase on the proportion of attainers confirmed was 60 percentage points and the greatest decrease was 32 percentage points however on average, the proportion confirmed increased by just 1 percentage point.

Note that for Barrow Borough Council, no DWP Green match rate was available for comparison since while the CLR Monitoring Report 1 for DWP matching reported zero attainers, the CLR Monitoring Report 2 reported six.

Postal Voters

For those LAs conducting LDM activities, 93 per cent of the 6.8 million postal voters were Confirmed, 7 per cent were Not Confirmed and less than 1 per cent were Undecided.

In Wales, the confirmation rate for Postal voters was highest at 94 per cent. In England it was lower at 93 per cent and in Scotland it was 90 per cent.

Considering just those areas where reports were submitted at LA level, the highest Confirmation rate for postal voters (99 per cent) was achieved in Epping Forest, and the lowest (75 per cent), was in City of London. The impact of LDM ranged from a 1 percentage point decrease to a 34 percentage point increase with an average impact of 7 percentage points increase.

Proxy Voters

As a result of DWP matching and LDM, of the 28,881 Proxy Voters, 84 per cent of these were Confirmed, 16 per cent were not confirmed and less than 1 per cent were Undecided.

Scotland achieved the highest Confirmation rate for Proxy voters at 86 per cent, followed by England with 83 per cent and Wales with 82 per cent.

Carry-Forward Electors

Since Carry-Forward Electors cannot be confirmed directly, no analysis of confirmation rates is given. For more information about carry-forward electors, see Annex B.

Local Data Matching Sources

CLR Monitoring Report 3 provided insight into the data sources used by LAs to conduct LDM. The reports provide the name of the data source used and as a result: the number of DWP Green matches Unconfirmed; the number of DWP Amber matches designated as Not Confirmed; the number of DWP Amber matches designated as Confirmed; the number of DWP Red matches designated as Confirmed and the Total Records Matched.

As we can see, these fields do not exhaust every outcome; it is possible, for example, that records given a Green rating following DWP matching are matched using local data and remain Confirmed as a result however this is not recorded here. This means we have no base from which to calculate a conversion rate. Also, CLR Monitoring Report 3s report the outcomes for records, not electors: where multiple sources are used it is likely that any obtaining a Red or Amber match through LDM against the first source would subsequently be matched again against the next source. This means that, while CLR Monitoring Report 2 did request that the number of LDM Red, Amber and Green matches be recorded[8], the figures reported would represent a number of electors and could again not be used as a base.

Furthermore, this likely sequential matching means that any electors that are “easy” to match, or that should be matched, will be done so through DWP or initial LDM sources and the success rate of the later data sources is likely to be artificially low.

We found that Council Tax records were most frequently used (over 300 LAs). Other sources included Housing records, Housing Benefit records, other Benefits records, Council Payroll records and Council contact databases. Since EROs were expected to use data sources that would be suitable for confirming, there is at least an agreement that Council Tax data meets LDM requirements.

[8] Note that while this information was requested, it was generally found to be incomplete.

Chapter 5
Final Results

For LAs not conducting or not reporting LDM, we can take the number of DWP Green matches given in their CLR Monitoring Report 1 to indicate the number of confirmed electors (2.2 million). The base used here will be the sum of Red, Amber and Green rated electors (2.8 million).

Where LDM was conducted, we will use the number of Confirmed electors as reported in CLR Monitoring Report 2 (38.3 million). The base here will be the sum of Confirmed, Not confirmed and Undecided designations for electors (43.8 million).

Combining these, we can find the final confirmation rate for all electors in all LAs in Great Britain.

The final results indicate that of 46.7 million electors[1] in the 380 LAs in England, Scotland and Wales, 40.5 million (87 per cent) were confirmed through DWP Confirmation and LDM activities, where employed. This is an 8 percentage point increase on DWP matching alone. This is a very positive result.

Table 5.1: Final Outcomes by Elector Type for all Local Authorities in Great Britain

Elector Type	DWP Green/ Confirmed	*Base Electors, 000s*	*Base LAs*
All Electors	87%	46,655	380
Attainers	49%	370	375
Postal Voters	92%	7,150	372
Proxy Voters	84%	31	370
Carry-Forward Electors[2]	44%	1,200	302

[1] This number differs slightly to the sum of DWP Red, Amber and Green matches. See Annex B for more information.

[2] Note that confirmed Carry-Forward electors are treated slightly differently to other electors (see Annex B).

These results compare favourably with those from CDR where: the Green DWP match rate for all LAs in England, Scotland and Wales was 78 per cent; the DWP Green match rate for the subset of LAs[3] conducting LDM was 79 per cent increasing to 85 per cent post-LDM; the final confirmation rate for all LAs, using DWP results where no local data matching was reported and final confirmed figures where local data matching was reported, was 80 per cent.

Looking at the final live run Confirmation results by area, Wales had the highest rate at 89 per cent, followed by 87 per cent in England and 86 per cent in Scotland.

Note that the absence of useable CLR Monitoring Report 2 for the five LAs with significant data discrepancies, and for the LA who was unable to submit this report, means that only DWP headline figures are reported and the true final confirmation rate in these areas could be slightly higher than that given here.

[3] During CDR, 138 of 380 LAs in England, Scotland and Wales conducted local data matching on their CDR results and submitted data in an automated report from their EMS system to the Cabinet Office.

Chapter 6
Indicative Write-out Figures

Following the confirmation exercise, EROs have been carrying out follow-up action, including writing to individuals who have been confirmed to notify them their details have been transferred to the IER register and issuing invitations to register (ITRs) for those individuals who have not been confirmed. In some cases, a Household Enquiry Form (HEF) must be sent first.

CLR Monitoring Reports collected contain information on initial writ-out figures. They tell us how many confirmation letters were sent to those Confirmed, how many ITRs were sent to those who did not confirm and how many HEFs were sent to other electors such as Carry-Forward electors. It was intended that any HEFs sent to vacant properties would also be included in the CLR Monitoring Reports.

Note that non-responses would have to be followed up and responses to HEFs also require an ITR be completed by all listed. Registers may have been amended further after the reports were submitted.

Figures presented here give an indication of the volume of letters sent by authorities in the first phase of the write-out. They utilise numbers presented in CLR Monitoring Report 2 if submitted and those in CLR Monitoring Report 1 otherwise. These will be the most up to date available. Five LAs with data discrepancies are excluded.

Confirmation letters were sent to 39.6 million electors across Great Britain. In the first instance, 5.6 million ITRs were sent to electors who did not confirm. Furthermore, EROs sent around 3 million HEFs.

Table 6.1: Indicative Preliminary Write Out figures

	Confirmation	HEF	ITR
Great Britain			
Total Number, millions	39,618,461	3,049,010	5,552,464
Minimum	1,398	1	261
Maximum	591,756	64,215	124,752
Mean	106,501	8,241	14,926
Median	85,229	5,777	10,041
Base LAs (non-zero)	372	370	372
LAs with zero letters	3	5	3
England			
Total Number, millions	34,056,681	2,623,571	4,830,117
Minimum	1,398	1	261
Maximum	591,756	64,215	124,752
Mean	106,427	8,250	15,094
Median	85,229	5,790	10,007
Base LAs (non-zero)	320	318	320
Scotland			
Total Number	3,643,328	291,580	519,643
Minimum	15,955	81	1,144
Maximum	378,011	32,189	74,336
Mean	113,854	9,112	16,239
Median	82,699	6,283	11,247
Base LAs (non-zero)	32	32	32
Wales			
Total Number, millions	1,918,452	133,859	202,704
Minimum	40,834	10	3,927
Maximum	217,662	30,929	34,618
Mean	95,923	6,693	10,135
Median	87,525	4,938	8,740
Base LAs (non-zero)	20	20	20

Chapter 7
Summary and Conclusion

Key Findings and implications

The dry run of confirmation indicated that, in England, Scotland and Wales, matching registers against DWP-CIS could achieve a confirmation rate of 78 per cent. For confirmation this year, DWP matching surpassed this with a DWP Green rating given to 79 per cent of all electors. The average DWP Green match rate for LAs was 80 per cent and the median was 82 per cent.

The majority of LAs in Great Britain (357) were able to conduct, and report on, local data matching. Following local data matching activities, 87 per cent of electors in this subset of authorities were assigned Confirmed, 13 per cent Not Confirmed and less than 1 per cent Undecided. Prior to local data matching, 79 per cent of electors in the same LAs achieved a Green rating following confirmation against DWP data. As such, the impact of local data matching on LAs conducting such activities was an increase in the proportion of electors confirmed of 8 percentage points. The average post-local data matching confirmation rate for these LAs was 88 per cent and the median was 90 per cent. The percentage point change for these LAs ranged from a 5 percentage point decrease to a 32 percentage point increase, with an average impact of an 8 percentage point increase.

Post DWP matching and local data matching, the final rate shows that 87 per cent of all electors were confirmed and “passported” onto the register. The average final confirmation rate for LAs was 88 per cent with a median of 89 per cent. The rate ranged from 61% in Hackney to 97% in Epping Forest.

As part of the transition to IER, all electoral registers have been matched against Government records. Where an elector’s name and address has been matched satisfactorily they have been transferred onto the new register under IER automatically - in these cases, the elector does not have to do anything, simplifying the change to IER and reducing costs. In transferring 87 per cent of electors onto the new IER register automatically, without their having to make a fresh application, this allows EROs to focus on the 6.2 million that have not been automatically registered under the new IER register and those that are not currently registered to vote in order to increase the completeness and accuracy of the electoral registers.

Any issues to note about the data and further information can be found in Annex B.

DWP Match Results

The national DWP Green match rate was 79 per cent and the LA average match rate was 80 per cent; this ranged from 48-87 per cent, with a median rate of 82 per cent – showing that most local authorities had a match rate towards the higher end of the spectrum. We know from previous pilots, including the dry run of Confirmation, that some groups are less likely to confirm – students, people living in privately rented accommodation, people living in communal establishments and recent home movers (there are clearly some overlaps between these groups). In addition, we know that some address types are more difficult to match due to their more complicated formatting e.g. rooms in student halls of residence. These findings were replicated in DWP confirmation this year with nineteen of the twenty areas with the lowest match rates being Urban areas. London boroughs where there is a high churn, lots of flats and sub-divided properties and a high proportion of privately rented flats made up thirteen of the twenty. Many of the areas are also likely to have high proportions of students for example Oxford, Manchester and Cambridge.

Local Data Matching Results

Most LAs conducted local data matching, with the most commonly used source of data being council tax information. Based on the reports submitted to the Cabinet Office, local data matching 8 percentage points to the confirmation rate for the subset of authorities conducting such activities. This ranged from a 5 percentage point decrease to a 32 percentage point increase with an average increase of 8 percentage points.

Annex A
Templates of CLR Monitoring Reports

Fig. 7.1: Template for CLR Monitoring Report 1

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	**Report 1**										
2	**File name**	Sunderland_City_Council_Report_1_20140401.csv									
3		DWP-Red		DWP-Amber		DWP-Green		Confirmation letters	HEF letters	ITR letters	
4		Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage				
5	All Electors	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	-	-	-	
6	Attainers	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	-	-	-	
7	Postal Voters	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	-	-	-	
8	Proxy Voters	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	-	-	-	
9	Carry-forward electors	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	-	-	-	
10	Ward Breakdown										
11	All Wards	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
12	*Ward A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
13	*Polling District A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
14	*Polling District B etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
15	*Ward B*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
16	*Polling District A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
17	*Polling District B etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
18	*Ward C*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
19	*Polling District A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
20	*Polling District B etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
21	*Ward D etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x	
22											

Fig. 7.2: Template for CLR Monitoring Report 2

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
1	**Report 2**																					
2	**File name**	Sunderland_City_Council_Report_2_20140401.csv																				
3		DWP-Red		DWP-Amber		DWP-Green		LDM-Red		LDM-Amber		LDM-Green		Confirmed		Not confirmed		Undecided		Confirmation	HEF letters	ITR letters
4		Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage			
5	All Electors	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
6	Attainers	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
7	Postal Voters	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
8	Proxy Voters	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
9	Carry-forward electors	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
10	Ward Breakdown																					
11	All Wards	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
12	*Ward A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
13	*Polling District A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
14	*Polling District B etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
15	*Ward B*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
16	*Polling District A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
17	*Polling District B etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
18	*Ward C*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
19	*Polling District A*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
20	*Polling District B etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x
21	*Ward D etc*	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x%	x	x	x

Fig. 7.3: Template for CLR Monitoring Report 3

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	**Report 3**						
2	**File name**	Sunderland_City_Council_Report_3_20140401.csv					
3		DWP-Green to Not Confirmed	DWP-Amber to Not Confirmed	DWP-Amber to Confirmed	DWP-Red to Confirmed	Total Records Matched	
4	*Name of data source 1*	x	x	x	x	x	
5	*Name of data source 2*	x	x	x	x	x	
6							

Annex B
Technical Note

There are a very small number of instances where data discrepancies could not be resolved in time for reporting deadlines.

This has resulted in 5 Local Authorities (two of which submitted a joint report) in England and Wales having only headline figures on their DWP match rates available. This could mean additional electors in these authorities, not included in this analysis, were confirmed through local data matching. For a further 15 LAs, there were data discrepancies between Local Authority and Ward level statistics however these did not affect the match rates. We are also aware that slightly different approaches were taken by each local authority Electoral Management Software (EMS) supplier meaning there are nuances to the reporting definitions used. There are two particularly noteworthy areas where this has occurred.

The treatment of pre-attainers has been subject to a difference of interpretation by EMS suppliers. For two EMS suppliers, pre-attainers are not included in the CLR upload. In the case of one supplier pre-attainers were included in the CLR upload, and therefore included in the DWP RAG counts, but removed from the letters figures and the post-LDM outcomes. In the case of one EMS supplier there is no definitive way of telling whether pre-attainers were included in the CLR upload.

If an electoral administrator has reason to believe that an elector is still at a property but hasn't responded to the canvass, they can choose to 'carry-forward' that elector and keep them on the register. During CLR, electors who are confirmed but who are carry-forwards will not be treated as confirmed in the same way as other electors (because of the possibility that their details may be less current and accurate). Instead their residence will be sent a HEF and if they are named on that form and were matched during confirmation they can then be treated as confirmed. It is not possible to know how many of the confirmed carry-forward electors will be truly confirmed through inclusion on a HEF response. If they are named on the HEF but do not match through confirmation they will be sent an ITR. Whether or not the elector confirmed, if they are included on the completed HEF they will remain on the December 2014 register and in some cases also be IER registered. Where the HEF isn't returned, all the electors at the property will be deleted unless, as individuals, they have made unsolicited IER applications which have been determined by 25 November 2014.

Since it was decided that electors carried-forward from the 2013/14 electoral registers would not be treated as confirmed[1], many Local Authorities opted not to have any carry-forwards from this register. This could be confirmed by the fact that 70 LAs reported zero Carry-forward electors in their CLR monitoring Reports. In the case of three EMS suppliers we can be certain they have removed from the number of confirmed electors and the number of confirmation letters, any carry-forward electors rated Green through DWP matching - this affects 28 LAs. For all other LAs, we cannot be certain whether or not carry-forward electors have been included in the "All Elector" counts. As such, we have not attempted to standardise the total figures.

Furthermore, as this is a dynamic environment, there are instances where time intervals between reports lead to figures changing slightly. Note that apparent reorganisation in Milton Keynes has resulted in different numbers of Wards and PDs in this LA between CLR Monitoring Reports 1 and 2.Two Local authorities submitted a joint report, and 20 LAs in Scotland reported at VJB level.

All of the above are footnoted clearly in the supporting data files where possible.

There were also presentational issues with some reports, the most common being that polling districts (PDs) within a ward were given the same name. Where this occurred, CO have suffixed with a numerical to distinguish between PDs. As such it may not be straightforward to identify a specific PD of interest. Percentages provided in the reports varied by LA, with different bases used, therefore these have been standardised. Wards and Polling Districts named in the reports which contained zero electors have been excluded.

[1] Carry-forward electors will not be transferred automatically onto the IER register unless they have been included on a Household Enquiry Form (HEF) as part of the IER canvass.

Annex C
Supplementary Tables and Charts

Table 7.1: Regional Statistics[1]

Region	England	Scotland	Wales	Great Britain
Electors, 000s	**40,119**	**4,239**	**2,305**	**46,664**
Attainers, 000s	287	77	18	383
Postal Voters, 000s	6,067	727	363	7,157
Proxy Voters	16	14	1	32
Carry-Forward Electors	1,012	131	59	1,203
Local Authorities	326	32	22	380
Average Electors per LA, 000s	123	132	105	123
Wards	7,578	353	768	8,699
Polling Districts	31,356	3,039	2,482	36,877

[1] The number of electors, wards and polling districts given here is the number uploaded for matching against DWP-CIS data during the live run of confirmation as reported in the CLR Monitoring Report 1.