



TRADE UNION BALLOTING.

We are aware that, when appointing an independent scrutineer for electoral projects, trade unions have a choice.

Why choose Electoral Reform Services (ERS)?

We are experienced

ERS and trade unions share a long history of working together. We first administered ballots for rail and mining unions more than a century ago. Trade union balloting has represented the foundation of our company's business for many years.

We have expertise

ERS has, since the passage of legislation in the 1980s, built up the most comprehensive and invaluable knowledge of the relevant statutes governing balloting in this area, knowledge which is always passed on to our clients. Crucially, we also have vast experience of the application of its provisions since the passing of the legislation, specifically the following statutes:

- Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992
- Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993
- Employment Relations Act 1999
- Trade Union Act 2016

ERS has a dedicated Trade Union sector with six advisors. Together with the management team they have over 100 years of experience. When any change to the legislation occurs, we are prepared.

We have unrivalled and comprehensive in-house services and facilities

ERS is unique among election administration companies in conducting all our operations from a single secure site. We employ 120 permanent staff at our headquarters in North London and offer the following in-house services:

- Client Advisory
- Artwork and Design
- Online Voting
- Data Processing
- Secure Print and Fulfilment
- Receive and Count
- Results Analysis
- Dedicated Customer Service Helpline
- Membership Engagement and Research
- Digital Services

The benefits of our fully in-house services include:

- Full control of the process from beginning to end
- Security
- Significant cost savings
- Quick response times and turnaround
- Experience and knowledge of working with individual trade unions in all aspects of balloting

We have a dedicated industrial action balloting department

ERS also has extensive experience of conducting industrial action ballots for trade unions.

Our Industrial Action Team has been assisting trade unions in this crucial area of ballots since the inception of legislation 25 years ago. In this period we have, as a company, gained valuable knowledge of the application of the Acts of Parliament governing this area, as well as practical experience of running these ballots which are regularly subject to challenging deadlines and public scrutiny.

We are always looking ahead – digital and online

As the law currently stands, statutory trade union ballots can only be conducted by post.

ERS has conducted online balloting for other clients for more than 18 years and currently administers hundreds of these projects annually.

When legislation changes to allow alternative methods of voting, ERS is well placed to assist in utilising the opportunities these changes will bring, including improved efficiency and cost effective communication between unions and their members.

We provide Assurer Services

We help trade unions keep pace with change by advising on best practice. In accordance with the Section 24 duty of TULCRA, and as independent scrutineers, ERS is qualified to issue annual Membership Audit Certificates to trade unions. Our service offering includes an enhanced process audit, delivered in confidential reports which highlight recommended improvements. In the first reporting year since new legislation was introduced, ERS provided this service for 14 trade unions.

Please call or email us to discuss your requirements and how ERS may be able to assist.

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MAKING DEMOCRACY HAPPEN