

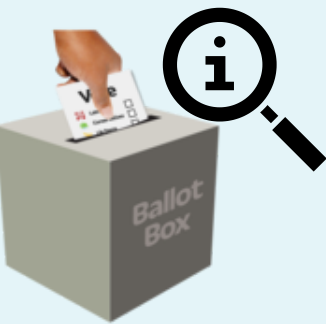
Easy Read Guide to Voting in Local Elections 2023



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This is an Easy Read guide



This guide is to give information about voting



There are local elections on 4th May 2023 in England



You will be given a choice of who to vote for



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Who Can Vote?



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Who Can Vote?



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To vote you need to be over 18



To vote you must be a UK or Irish citizen



Or an EU or Commonwealth citizen living in the UK



Information about Commonwealth citizens who can vote can be found here:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/register-vote-and-update-your-details>



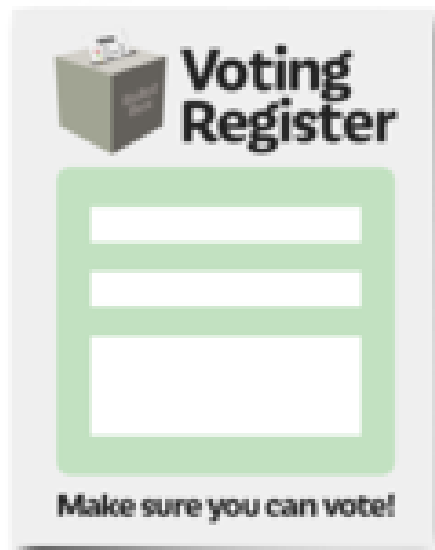
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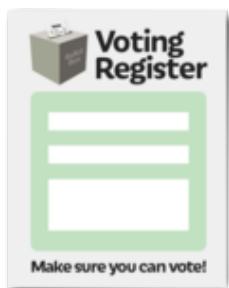
How to Register to Vote



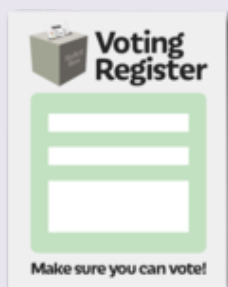
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How to Register to Vote



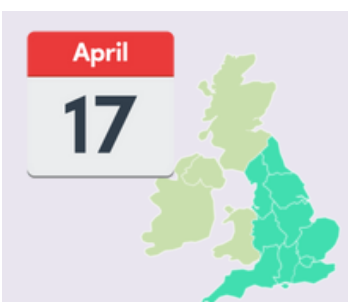
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You need to register to vote



If you don't register you cannot vote



The final day you can register in England is **17th April**



You can register online

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>



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How to Register to Vote



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If you can't register online, you can get a paper form from

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>



You will need to send the form to your local electoral registration office:

<https://www.gov.uk/contact-electoral-registration-office>



If you have moved house you will need to register again



If you are already registered you don't need to register again



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Ways to Vote



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Ways to Vote



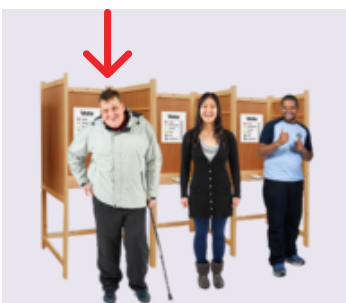
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You can vote in person at your polling station on **4th May**



You can vote by post if you cannot vote in person



You can have a person vote on your behalf (by proxy) if you cannot vote in person



The rest of this guide explains how you can vote



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Voting in Person



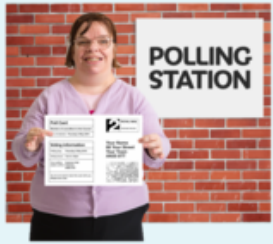
Voting in Person



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Before the voting day you will get a poll card in the post



Your poll card will tell you which polling station you need to go to on voting day

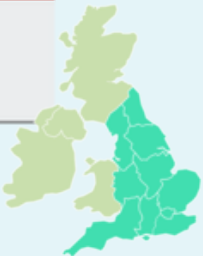


You now need ID to vote in local elections. Accepted ID can be found here:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id>

May

4



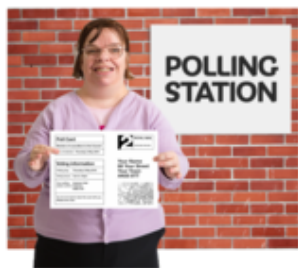
You can vote in England on **4th May 2023**



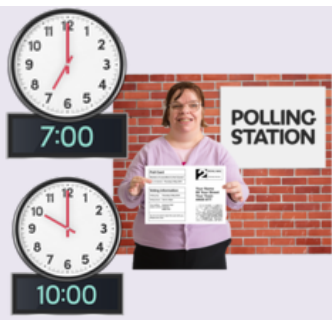
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Voting in Person



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Polling Stations are open from 7am to 10pm



If there's a queue at your polling station, you can still vote if you join the queue before 10pm



If you need help getting to your polling station, you can contact your local council



When you arrive a staff member will ask your name so they can check that you are registered



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Voting in Person



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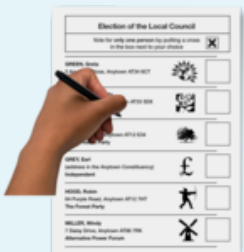
They will also ask you for your ID



You can ask to show your ID in private



The staff member will cross your name off their list



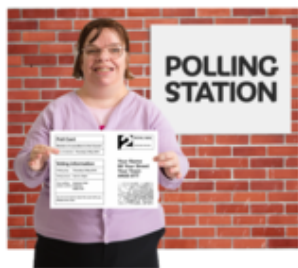
The staff member will give you a ballot paper. This is a list of people you can vote for



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Voting in Person



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Take your ballot paper to a booth. This is so you can vote in secret



Check the instructions carefully



Use the pencil in the booth to complete your vote



If you write anything else on the paper your vote may not be counted



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Voting in Person



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If you make a mistake, ask a staff member for a replacement



When you have marked your paper, fold it and place it in the ballot box



Photographs are not allowed in the polling station



You can take photographs outside polling stations



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Voting in Person



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If you need any help just ask the staff at the polling station



Support documents are available for visually impaired people



You can use magnifier, text to speech apps or your phone torch to help you



From 4th May 2023, anyone over the age of 18 can come and help you



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Voting by Post



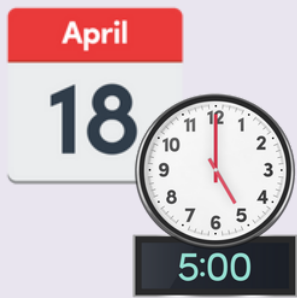
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Voting by Post



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The deadline to apply for a postal vote for the elections on 4 May 2023 is 5pm on Tuesday 18 April



You must also be registered to vote by Monday 17 April



If you know that you won't be able to get to the polling station on polling day, you can vote by post



You can apply for postal vote if you will be away on holiday or if your work means you can't get to polling station



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Voting by Post



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You can also choose to vote by post simply because it would be easier for you



You will be sent a postal vote ballot pack before the election



To apply to vote by post in England, Scotland or Wales, you need to download, print and fill in the postal vote application form (Link below)



<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-06/Postal%20vote%20application%20form.pdf>



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Voting by Post



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If you can't print the form or need it in an accessible format, contact the electoral services team at your local council for help



The application form includes instructions on how to fill it in



You will need to give your date of birth and signature on the form so your identity can be confirmed



If you're unable to sign the form, contact the electoral services team at your local council for more information



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Voting by Post



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Once you have completed the form and signed it, you need to send it to the electoral services team at your local council



The electoral services team at your local council may also accept a copy of your form by email, but you should check with them first



If you want to cancel your postal vote then you should contact your local council before 5pm on Tuesday 18 April



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Voting by Proxy



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Voting by Proxy



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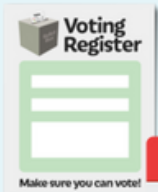
April

25



5:00

The deadline to apply for a proxy vote for the elections on 4 May 2023 is 5pm on Tuesday 25 April



April

17

You must also be registered to vote by Monday 17 April



You can have a person vote on your behalf (by proxy) if you cannot vote in person



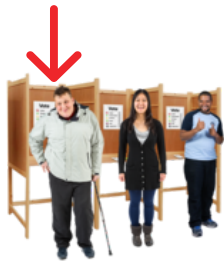
The person you choose to vote on your behalf will need to show **their own photo ID** to cast your vote. They will not need to show your ID



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Voting by Proxy



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The person voting on your behalf can either go to your polling station to cast your vote, or can apply to vote for you by post



To apply for a proxy vote, you have to complete a form and give a reason why you can't get to your polling station in person



You will need to complete a new proxy vote application if you have moved house



Use this form to apply for a proxy vote for a specific election (Link below)



www.wirralevolutions.org



Voting by Proxy



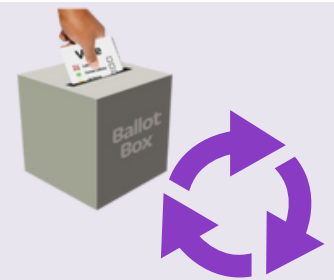
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<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-04/Proxy-application-particular-election.pdf>



If you're unable to print the form or need it in an accessible format, contact the electoral services team at your local council for help



If you need to vote by proxy for more than once you will need to complete a different form



The form depends on the reason why you will need a proxy vote more than once



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Voting by Proxy



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If the reason is because you have a disability, you can find a link to the form you need below



<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/media/6199>



For the full list of reasons and links to the forms please visit the link below



<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/apply-vote-proxy>



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Voting by Proxy



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If you're unable to print the form or need it in an accessible format, contact the electoral services team at your local council for help



The application form includes instructions on how to fill it in



You will need to give your date of birth and signature on the form so your identity can be confirmed



Once you have completed the form and signed it, you need to send it to the electoral services team at your local council



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Voting by Proxy



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The electoral services team at your local council may also accept a copy of your form by email, but you should check with them first



If you're not sure if you already have a proxy vote, contact the electoral services team at your local council to find out



Sometimes people may need an emergency proxy vote for special reasons



If you have a medical emergency



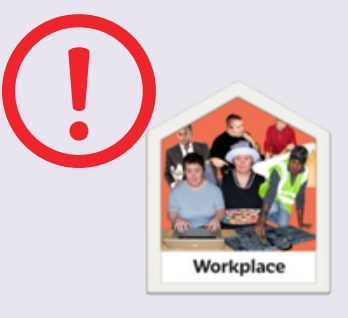
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Voting by Proxy



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If you have a work emergency



If your ID is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged



The form for these emergencies can be found through the following link



<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/apply-vote-proxy>



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Voting by Proxy



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If you wish to cancel your proxy vote (in England and Wales) contact your local council

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April 2023



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