Apply to vote by post

Voting by post

You can apply to vote by post for a particular election, for a set period of time or for all future elections. But, you must be registered to vote first. Postal votes can be sent out to addresses in the UK and abroad.

How do I apply to vote by post?

1. Fill in the form attached to this leaflet.

2. Make sure you complete all sections of the form and supply your date of birth and signature. If you cannot sign or sign consistently, please contact your local electoral registration office for assistance.

3. Return the form to your local electoral registration office at least 11 working days before the election. For contact details, visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk or look in your phone book.

What happens after I’ve returned this form?

- When an election is going to be held, your ballot paper will be sent to you in the post. Remember, it may not be sent out until four working days before election day, or three working days in Scotland.
- If it does not arrive by this time, contact your electoral registration office for a replacement ballot paper. In Scotland, contact the returning officer at your local council. You must do this by 5pm on election day.
• You will need to give your date of birth and signature on this application form, and again when you use your postal vote. This information is needed to tackle fraud.

• Make sure you return your postal vote so that it arrives by election day, otherwise it will not be counted. A Freepost envelope is included in your postal ballot pack. But, if you are sending it from overseas, you will need to pay the postage.

• If it is too late to send your vote back by post, you can hand it in on election day to the returning officer at your local council, drop it off at a polling station in your constituency or, if you are voting in a local election, drop it off at any polling station in your ward.

• Your postal vote will be mixed with all the others before counting begins, so your vote will be kept secret.

More information

If you need more forms or have any questions about voting by post, go to www.aboutmyvote.co.uk or contact your electoral registration office.

In England and Wales, the electoral registration office is based at your local council. In Scotland, it may be a separate office. For contact details, go to www.aboutmyvote.co.uk or look in your phone book.

This leaflet does not apply in Northern Ireland. Visit www.eoni.org.uk for more information.

Other formats

Please contact your electoral registration office if you cannot sign or sign consistently or if you need this information:

• on audio CD
• in Braille
• in one of a number of other languages
Application to vote by post

Only one person can register using this form.

Please write in black ink and use BLOCK LETTERS. When you have filled in every section and signed the form yourself, send it to your local electoral registration office.

You can get the address at www.aboutmyvote.co.uk or in your phone book.

1. About you

Surname

First names (in full)

Your address (where you are registered to vote)

Postcode

2. How long do you want a postal vote for?

I want to vote by post (tick one box only)

☐ for the elections to be held on

☐ for the period

from

to

☐ until further notice (permanent postal vote)

3. At which election(s) do you want a postal vote?

Please tick the appropriate box:

☐ Parliamentary or Assembly elections

☐ Local elections

☐ All elections
4. Address for ballot paper

You can have your postal ballot pack sent to your registered address (as given in part 1) or to a different address. However, if you would like your ballot paper sent to a different address, you must give a reason why.

Please send my ballot paper to (tick one box only)

☐ my address where I am registered to vote (see part 1)

☐ the following address

Address

----------

Postcode

The reason I would like my ballot paper sent to this address, rather than my registered address is:

----------

5. Your date of birth and signature

Please write your date of birth ‘DD MM YYYY’ in the black boxes.

Then sign, using black ink, keeping within the black border.

Declaration:
As far as I know, the details on this form are true and accurate.