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 postal vote application form.
2. Make sure you sign the form.
3. Return it to your local electoral registration office at least six working days before the election.

What happens after I’ve returned this form?
- Your ballot paper will be sent to you about one week before the election. It may be issued as late as four working days before election day.
- If it does not arrive, contact your local electoral registration office (in Scotland contact the returning officer at your local council) for a replacement ballot paper. You must do this by 5pm on the day before the election at the latest.
- When you have received your ballot paper, mark your vote, sign the declaration of identity and get someone to witness your signature. Return both documents in the prepaid envelope. If you’re sending it from abroad, you’ll need to pay the postage.
- Make sure you send back your postal vote so that it arrives by election day. If it arrives after the election poll closes, it will not be counted. If it is too late to post it back, you can hand it in at your local polling station or to the returning officer at your local council on election day.
- Your postal vote will be mixed with all the others before counting begins, so your vote will be kept secret.

More information
If you live in England and Wales, contact the electoral registration office at your local council.
If you live in Scotland, contact your local electoral registration office.
You can find contact details in your phone book or at www.aboutmyvote.co.uk
This form does not apply in Northern Ireland. Visit the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland at www.electoralofficeni.gov.uk for more information.

Other formats
You can get this information on audiotape, in Braille, in large print and in various languages. Visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk
Application to vote by post

Only one person for each form. Please read the notes carefully before filling in this form. When you have completed every section and signed the form personally, send it to your local electoral registration office. Please write in black ink and use BLOCK LETTERS.

1 About you

Surname

First names (in full)

Your address (where you are registered to vote)

Postcode

Email (optional)

Daytime telephone or mobile (optional)

2 How long do you want a postal vote for?

I want to vote by post (tick one box)

☐ for the elections held on D M Y

☐ for the period from D M Y
to D M Y

☐ until further notice (permanent postal vote)

3 At which elections do you want a postal vote?

Please tick the appropriate box.

Parliamentary or Assembly elections ☐

Local elections ☐

All elections ☐

4 Address for ballot paper

Please send my ballot paper to (tick one box)

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

☐ the following address

Address

Postcode

5 Your signature

Each person has to sign their own form. The form will be returned if it is not signed. You can be fined for making a false statement on this form.

Signature

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Polling district: Date received:

Elector number: Date added: