Register to vote

You need to **register to vote** to take part in elections and referendums.

Register to vote means:

- Completing this form

- If your application is successful your name goes on the list of people who are able to vote in elections

You can apply to **register to vote** either:

- Online at: [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)
Or by completing this form and sending it to your **Electoral Registration Office**

You can find the address at: [www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter)
Who can register to vote?

You can register to vote if you are:

- Living in Scotland
- Aged 14 or over

You will not be able to vote:

- In Scottish Parliament elections or local council elections until you are 16
- In UK Parliament elections until you are 18
You must also be either:

- British, Irish or European Union citizen or

- A **Commonwealth** citizen or **foreign national** who has permission to live in the UK

The **Commonwealth** is a group of countries that mostly used to be part of the British Empire.

A **foreign national** is someone who was not born in the country they are living in.
Your name and address

Your first names

Your surname

Your address

Postcode

Do you also live at another address?

[ ] No   [ ] Yes

You don’t have to give us your telephone number or email, but it helps if you do

Telephone number

Email
Your nationality

Please write down your **nationality**. If you have more than one nationality please write all your nationalities.

**Nationality** means the country you belong to.

We may:

- Ask you for more information about your nationality
- Check that your nationality is correct
Moved house?

Have you moved house in the last 12 months?
☐ No  ☐ Yes

If ‘Yes’ please tell us your previous address

Postcode

If your previous address was overseas, were you registered in the UK as an overseas voter?
☐ No  ☐ Yes
Your date of birth

What is your date of birth?

Day (number)  
Month  
Year

If you don’t know your date of birth please tick if you are:

☐ Aged 14 - 15

☐ Aged 16 - 17

☐ Aged 18 or over
Your National Insurance number

What is your National Insurance number? (This doesn’t apply if you are under 16)

You may find this on a payslip or any official letters about tax, pensions or benefits.

Please tick this box if you are under 16 years old.

Don’t know?

If you don’t know your nationality, date of birth or National Insurance number, please tell us why.

We may ask you for other information if you don’t know these.
Changed your name?

(You don’t have to answer these questions if you don’t want, but it helps if you do)

If you have changed your name, please tell us your previous name

What date did you change your name?
Postal vote, or proxy

Most people vote at a polling station on polling day.

Do not fill in the boxes on this page if you want to vote at the polling station.

You can choose to vote by post or by proxy.

Please tick if you would like one of these options. We will send you the forms you need to complete.

Or you can get the form online at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter

☐ By post

☐ By proxy

**Proxy** means allowing someone you trust to vote on your behalf.
The Open Register

Registration officers keep 2 registers:

- The Electoral Register
- The Open Register

The Electoral Register

This has all the names and addresses of everyone who is registered to vote in elections.

It is used to make sure people are allowed to vote.

It can also be used to:

- Help the police detect a crime
- Call people to be on a jury

A jury is a group of people who decide if someone is guilty in some court cases.
- Check the names and addresses of people who want to borrow money

**The Open Register**

The Open Register is not used for elections. It can be bought by any person, company or organisation.

If you are aged 16 or over your name will be on The Open Register unless you ask for it to be removed.

Your right to vote is not affected if you ask for your name to be removed.

Please tick here if you do not want your name and address to be on The Open Register.

**People aged 14 or 15**

People aged 14 or 15 will not be included on The Open Register.

They will be included on The Electoral Register, but only Electoral Registration Officers and their staff can see the details.
Details will not be seen by anyone else.

About six weeks before an election certain people need to be able to see their details. We will give them a copy of the information.

Worried about your safety?

If you are worried having your name and address on the register will affect your safety, or the safety of someone you live with, contact your electoral registration office.
Your signature

Please sign below to say that:

- You live at the address that you have written
- All the information you have given is true
- You understand that the information you have given will be used on The Electoral Register
- You understand that if you do not apply to be on the register of electors when you have been asked, it could lead to a fine of £80. This £80 fine does not apply to 14 or 15 year olds.
- You understand that if you have given any wrong information you could get a fine of up to £5,000 and/or go to prison for up to 6 months.

Signature

Today’s date
Privacy statement

If you choose to be on The Open Register your information can be bought by anyone.

They might use it to contact you to tell you about something or try and sell you something.

If you choose not to have your name and address on The Open Register, we will only use your information when we are running elections and referendums.

We will look after your information and keep it safe.

We will not give any information about you to anyone unless the law says we must.
We use your information in a way that is set out in a law called Representation of the People Act 1983 and other regulations.

The law says that the Data Controller must have a policy document that explains how this information will be used.

The Electoral Registration Officer is the Data Controller.

For further information about how your personal data may be used, you should go to their privacy notice on their website.

You can find their website address and contact details at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter
Problems with this form?

If you are having problems with this form, or if you need more information please contact your Electoral Registration Office.

www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter