

electoral administration bulletin

The
Electoral
Commission



Issue 320 (Scotland) – 5 January 2023

Elections Act: Voter Authority Certificate paper application forms

A sample of the Voter Authority Certificate paper application form can now be viewed on [our website](#). We have published this at this stage to give you advance sight of the form content, prior to the application service going live.

The full set of forms that will be published on the same webpage when the application service goes live includes:

- Voter Authority Certificate application form
- Voter Authority Certificate application form for service voters and overseas voters (also known as ‘the special category elector form’)
- Anonymous Elector’s Document application form
- Easy read application form
- Large print application form
- Alternative languages application forms

The sample form **must not** be shared with the public prior to the application service going live later this month.

Welcome to Your Vote week

As highlighted in [Bulletin 316](#), Welcome to Your Vote week 2023 will take place from Monday 30 January – Sunday 5 February.

Welcome to Your Vote week is an opportunity to start the conversation about democracy and politics with young people in your area.

This year’s theme is ‘Our Democracy’. We want to emphasise that democracy takes place all around us and that everyone can get involved.

Schools and youth groups can take part in the week by delivering lessons, an assembly, a democracy game, an off-timetable democracy day or a voter registration drive. We’re also working with

Contents

Elections Act: Voter Authority Certificate paper application forms

Information on and a link to a sample of the Voter Authority Certificate paper application form.

Welcome to Your Vote week

Update on our plans for Welcome to Your Vote week, which will take place from 30 January to 5 February 2023.

EA Bulletins are issued on a regular basis. They are one of our key channels for communicating with Returning Officers, Electoral Registration Officers and their staff. Past issues of Bulletins for England, Scotland and Wales are available [here](#). You can also [subscribe to the EA Bulletins](#).

Please [keep us informed](#) of any staff changes within your team. This will help us to keep our mailing lists up-to-date.

We are sending you this newsletter as it contains important information about the Electoral Commission’s work which is relevant to you. The newsletter forms part of the Electoral Commission’s public task which has its basis in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. We will manage your personal information and contact details in line with the General Data Protection Regulation and UK data protection legislation as outlined in our privacy notice (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/privacy-notice>)

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, you may [unsubscribe](#) at any time.

the Scottish Youth Parliament and Girlguiding Scotland to support MSYPs and other young volunteers to run events and deliver presentations on the theme of 'Our Democracy' to other young people.

Let schools and youth groups in your area know about Welcome to Your Vote week, and share [our flexible democratic education resources](#), including lesson plans, short games and activities, and animated videos, with them to help with their planning. Our resources are curriculum-linked and aimed for use with 14-18 year olds, but future voters of any age are invited to get involved with Welcome to Your Vote week.

Ask schools and youth groups to [sign up to the week](#) to receive their free Welcome to Your Vote week resources. Share how your area is celebrating Welcome to Your Vote week on social media by using #WelcomeToYourVote and #OurDemocracy.

We're also seeking schools to sign up to deliver a set of six lesson plans and sharing their feedback with us so we can improve our offering to schools. In return, schools will be entered into a prize draw to win £500 of resources. You can find out more on our [website](#).

For more information about Welcome to Your Vote Week or our wider education work, please email learning@electoralcommission.org.uk.

.....
The Electoral Commission
City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh,
EH1 1YJ
Tel: 0333 103 1928

infoscotland@electoralcommission.org.uk

www.electoralcommission.org.uk

© The Electoral Commission 2023