

vote by post You are in the Voter section Home Voter Your location: Change England Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Overseas We're showing you content for . Select 'change' to choose a different location. On this page When you will receive your ballot paper When you will receive your ballot paper When you will receive your ballot paper When you will receive your ballot paper When you will receive your ballot paper How to vote by post How to vote by post How to vote by post How to vote by post How to vote by post Returning your postal vote Returning your postal vote Returning your postal vote Returning your postal vote How to cancel your postal vote How to cancel your postal vote How to cancel your postal vote How to cancel your postal vote How to cancel your postal vote First published: 7 April 2021 Last updated: 18 April 2023 When you will receive your ballot paper After the deadline to become a candidate has passed (approximately three weeks before polling day), ballot papers are produced and printed. Yours will then be sent to you, in your postal voting pack. Once you receive your postal voting pack, make sure to keep it somewhere safe. Don't let anyone else handle it, and avoid leaving it where someone else could pick it up. When you will receive your ballot paper After the deadline to become a candidate has passed (approximately three weeks before polling day), ballot papers are produced and printed. Yours will then be sent to you, in your postal voting pack. Once you receive your postal voting pack, make sure to keep it somewhere safe. Don't let anyone else handle it, and avoid leaving it where someone else could pick it up. When you will receive your ballot paper After the deadline to become a candidate has passed (approximately three weeks before polling day), ballot papers are produced and printed. Yours will then be sent to you, in your postal voting pack. Once you receive your postal voting pack, make sure to keep it somewhere safe. Don't let anyone else handle it, and avoid leaving it where someone else could pick it up. When you will receive your ballot paper After the deadline to become a candidate has passed (approximately three weeks before polling day), ballot papers are produced and printed. Yours will then be sent to you, in your postal voting pack. Once you receive your postal voting pack, make sure to keep it somewhere safe. Don't let anyone else handle it, and avoid leaving it where someone else could pick it up. When you will receive your ballot paper After the deadline to become a candidate has passed (approximately three weeks before polling day), ballot papers are produced and printed. Yours will then be sent to you, in your postal voting pack. Once you receive your postal voting pack, make sure to keep it somewhere safe. Don't let anyone else handle it, and avoid leaving it where someone else could pick it up. How to vote by post Step one When you receive your postal voting pack, check the contents carefully. Inside your postal voting pack, there should be: instructions about how to cast your vote and how to return the postal vote pack a postal vote statement two envelopes the ballot paper or papers for the elections taking place Step two Complete the postal vote statement carefully following the instructions. Step three Read the instructions on the ballot paper carefully. Some elections use different voting methods, so you need to make sure you fill in each ballot paper correctly. Step four Complete your ballot paper. Make sure you do it alone and in secret. Don't write anything else on the paper, or your vote may not be counted. Step five Put your ballot paper in the smaller envelope. Step six Put your postal vote statement and the envelope containing your ballot paper in the bigger envelope, and seal it all up. Make sure the return address is clear. Step seven Put your postal vote somewhere safe until you're ready to post it. How to vote by post Step one When you receive your postal voting pack, check the contents carefully. Inside your postal voting pack, there should be:

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Returning your postal vote

As soon as you're ready to return your postal vote, take it to the post box yourself. If you can't post it yourself, you can either ask someone you know and

trust to post it for you, or you can contact the elections team at your local council to ask if they can collect it from you. Avoid asking a candidate or party worker to post it for you. This is against their code of conduct. Your postal vote needs to be with the elections team at your local council by 10pm on polling day to be counted. If you can't post your postal vote pack in time, you can take it your polling station or to your local council on polling day. Returning your postal vote As soon as you're ready to return your postal vote, take it to the post box yourself. If you can't post it yourself, you can either ask someone you know and trust to post it for you, or you can contact the elections team at your local council to ask if they can collect it from you. Avoid asking a candidate or party worker to post it for you. This is against their code of conduct. Your postal vote needs to be with the elections team at your local council by 10pm on polling day to be counted. If you can't post your postal vote pack in time, you can take it your polling station or to your local council on polling day. Returning your postal vote As soon as you're ready to return your postal vote, take it to the post box yourself. If you can't post it yourself, you can either ask someone you know and trust to post it for you, or you can contact the elections team at your council to ask if they can collect it from you. Avoid asking a candidate or party worker to post it for you. This is against their code of conduct. Your postal vote needs to be with the elections team at your council by 10pm on polling day to be counted. If you can't post your postal vote pack in time, you can take it your polling place or to your council on polling day. Returning your postal vote As soon as you're ready to return your postal vote, take it to the postbox yourself. You should send it directly to the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland . If you can't post it yourself, you can either ask someone you know and trust to post it for you. You can give your postal vote ballot paper in at the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland office in Belfast on polling day if you have not already posted it. You cannot give your postal vote ballot paper in at a polling station on polling day. Returning your postal vote As soon as you're ready to return your postal vote, take it to the postbox yourself. If you can't post it yourself, you can ask someone you know and trust to post it for you. Avoid asking a candidate or party worker to post it for you. This is against their code of conduct. Your postal vote needs to be with the local council where you're registered by 10pm on polling day to be counted. If you don't think you will have time to receive and return your postal vote ballot pack, you may want to consider voting by proxy (when someone you trust votes on your behalf). How to cancel your postal vote If you want to cancel your postal vote then you should contact your local council to request this. You must do so before 5pm, 11 working days before the election you will be voting in. If you have already returned your completed postal vote, then you will not be able to cancel it for that election. How to cancel your postal vote If you want to cancel your postal vote then you should contact the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland to request this. If you have already returned your completed postal vote, then you will not be able to cancel it for that election. How to cancel your postal vote If you want to cancel your postal vote then you should contact your local electoral registration office to request this. You must do so before 5pm, 11 working days before the election you will be voting in. If you have already returned your completed postal vote, then you will not be able to cancel it for that election. How to cancel your postal vote If you want to cancel your postal vote then you should contact your local council to request this. You must do so before 5pm, 11 working days before the election you will be voting in. If you have already returned your completed postal vote, then you will not be able to cancel it for that election. How

to cancel your postal vote If you want to cancel your postal vote then you should contact the relevant body to request this. In England and Wales contact your local council. In Scotland contact your electoral registration office. In Northern Ireland contact the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland. The deadline to cancel your postal vote in England, Scotland and Wales is before 5pm, 11 working days before the election you will be voting in. If you have already returned your completed postal vote, then you will not be able to cancel it for that election. Photos of postal ballot papers Postal ballot papers are viewed differently in electoral law to ballot papers in a polling station, so voters can take a photo of their own postal ballot paper and publicise it (including on social media) if they want to. It is the personal choice of the voter whether they decide to take a photo of their postal ballot paper and share it. It is an offence to persuade or induce another person to share a photo of their postal ballot paper. Your location: Change England Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Overseas We're showing you content for . Select 'change' to choose a different location. Related content Apply to vote by post Can't get to the polling station on polling day? Apply to vote by post by downloading and completing the application form. Apply to vote by proxy Can't get to the polling station on polling day? Ask a trusted person to vote on your behalf and apply for a proxy vote. Elections in your area Enter your postcode to find your electoral services team at your local council. You need to send your postal and proxy vote application forms to them. Voting in person Voting in person on polling day? Learn more about what to expect when you go to the polling station.