Apply to vote by proxy | Electoral Commission Search Apply to vote by proxy 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 Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf Download the application form Help with the form Help with the form Help with the form Filling in your form Where to send your completed form Check if you already have a proxy vote Emergency proxy vote Emergency proxy vote Emergency proxy vote Emergency proxy vote Postal proxy vote How to cancel your proxy vote How to cancel your proxy vote How to cancel your proxy vote First published: 12 January 2019 Last updated: 25 April 2023 Make sure you're registered Make sure you're registered To vote in any election in the UK, you must be registered to vote. Find out if you're eligible to register and how to apply Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf If you know that you won't be able to get to the polling station on polling day, you can ask someone you trust to cast your vote for you. This is called a proxy vote and the person casting your vote is often referred to as your proxy. If you nominate a proxy, the person you choose to vote on your behalf will need to show their own photo ID to cast your vote. They will not need to show your ID. The person voting on your behalf can either go to your polling station to cast your vote, or can apply to vote for you by post. Find out how to vote by proxy Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf If you know that you won't be able to get to the polling station on polling day, you can ask someone you trust to cast your vote for you. This is called a proxy vote and the person casting your vote is often referred to as your proxy. If you nominate a proxy to vote on your behalf in a UK general election or parliamentary by-election, they'll need to show their own photo ID to cast your vote. They will not need to show your ID. The person voting on your behalf can either go to your polling station to cast your vote, or can apply to vote for you by post. Find out how to vote by proxy Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf If you know that you won't be able to get to the polling place on polling day, you can ask someone you trust to cast your vote for you. This is called a proxy vote and the person casting your vote is often referred to as your proxy. If you nominate a proxy to vote on your behalf in a UK general election or parliamentary by-election, they'll need to show their own photo ID to cast your vote. They will not need to show your ID. The person voting on your behalf can either go to your polling place to cast your vote, or can apply to vote for you by post. Find out how to vote by proxy Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf If you know that you won't be able to get to the polling station on polling day, you can ask someone you trust to cast your vote for you. This is called a proxy vote and the person casting your vote is often referred to as your proxy. The person voting on your behalf can either go to your polling station to cast your vote, or can apply to vote for you by post. In Northern Ireland, you can vote by proxy if you can't get to the polling station on polling day for certain reasons. In certain circumstances, you can also apply for an indefinite proxy vote. You can do this at

any time of year. Asking a trusted person to vote on your behalf If you're registered as an overseas voter, you can ask someone you trust to cast your vote for you. This is called a proxy vote and the person casting your vote is often referred to as your proxy. You can also vote by proxy if you're a service voter or a Crown servant voter from and are based overseas. If you nominate a proxy, the person you choose to vote on your behalf will need to show their own photo ID to cast your vote. They will not need to show your ID. The person voting on your behalf can either go to your polling station to cast your vote, or can apply to vote for you by post. Download the application form To apply for a proxy vote, you have to complete a form and give a reason why you can't get to your polling station in person. This may be because you're going to be on holiday, or have a physical condition which means you can't get to your polling station on polling day. You will need to complete a new proxy vote application if you have moved house. A proxy vote for a specific election Use this form to apply for a proxy vote for a specific election. This could be because you're on holiday or away for work for an upcoming polling day. Download the form to vote by proxy at a particular election or referendum (PDF) A permanent or long-term proxy vote Use one of these forms if you won't be able to go to the polling station for the foreseeable future, or a long period of time. The form you need to complete depends on the reason why you need a proxy vote. You have a disability (PDF) You are away on an educational course (PDF) You are away for work (PDF) You are registered as an overseas voter (PDF) You work overseas for the British Council or as a Crown servant (PDF) You are serving overseas in the Armed Forces (PDF) You are registered as an anonymous elector (PDF) Download the application form To apply for a proxy vote, you have to complete a form and give a reason why you can't get to your polling station in person. This may be because you're going to be on holiday, or have a physical condition which means you can't get to your polling station on polling day. You will need to complete a new proxy vote application if you have moved house. A proxy vote for a specific election Use this form to apply for a proxy vote for a specific election. This could be because you're on holiday or away for work for an upcoming polling day. Download the form to vote by proxy at a particular election or referendum (PDF) A permanent or long-term proxy vote Use one of these forms if you won't be able to go to the polling station for the foreseeable future, or a long period of time. The form you need to complete depends on the reason why you need a proxy vote. You have a disability (PDF) You are away on an educational course (PDF) You are away for work (PDF) You are registered as an overseas voter (PDF) You work overseas for the British Council or as a Crown servant (PDF) You are serving overseas in the Armed Forces (PDF) You are registered as an anonymous elector (PDF) Download the application form To apply for a proxy vote, you have to complete a form and give a reason why you can't get to your polling place in person. This may be because you're going to be on holiday, or have a physical condition which means you can't get to your polling place on polling day. You will need to complete a new proxy vote application if you have moved house. A proxy vote for a specific election Use this form to apply for a proxy vote for a specific election. This could be because you're on holiday or away for work for an upcoming polling day. Download the form to vote by proxy at a particular election or referendum (PDF) A permanent or long-term proxy vote Use one of these forms if you won't be able to go to the polling station for the foreseeable future, or a long period of time. The form you need to complete depends on the reason why you need a proxy vote. You have a disability (PDF) You are away on an educational course (PDF) You are away for work (PDF) You are registered as an overseas voter (PDF) You work overseas for the British Council or as a Crown servant

(PDF) You are serving overseas in the Armed Forces (PDF) You are registered as an anonymous elector (PDF) Download the application form Download the absent vote form and find out more from the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland. If you registered to vote online, you'll need to provide your Digital Registration Number (DRN) on your application for a proxy vote. Download the application form To apply for a proxy vote, you have to complete a form and give a reason why you can't get to your polling station in person. This may be because you're going to be on holiday, or have a physical condition which means you can't get to your polling station on polling day. You will need to complete a new proxy vote application if you have moved house. A proxy vote for a specific election Use this form to apply for a proxy vote for a specific election. This could be because you're on holiday or away for work for an upcoming polling day. Download the form to vote by proxy at a particular election or referendum (PDF) A permanent or long-term proxy vote Use one of these forms if you won't be able to go to the polling station for the foreseeable future, or a long period of time. The form you need to complete depends on the reason why you need a proxy vote. You are registered as an overseas voter (PDF) You work overseas for the British Council or as a Crown servant (PDF) You are serving overseas in the Armed Forces (PDF) You are registered as an anonymous elector (PDF) Help with the form Help with the form If you're unable to print the application form or need it in an accessible format, contact the electoral services team at your local council for help. Help with the form Help with the form If you're unable to print the application form or need it in an accessible format, contact the electoral services team at your local council for help. Help with the form Help with the form If you're unable to print the application form or need it in an accessible format, contact your local Electoral Registration Office for help. Help with the form Help with the form If you're unable to print the application form or need it in an accessible format, contact the electoral registration office for help. Filling in your form The application form includes instructions on how to fill it in correctly. You will need to provide your date of birth and signature on your application form. Filling in your form The application form includes instructions on how to fill it in correctly. You will need to provide your date of birth and signature on your application form. Filling in your form The application form includes instructions on how to fill it in correctly. You will need to provide your date of birth and signature on your application form. Filling in your form The application form includes instructions on how to fill it in correctly. You will need to provide your date of birth and signature on your application form. Filling in your form The application form includes instructions on how to fill it in correctly. You will need to provide your date of birth and signature on your application form. Digital Registration Number (DRN) If you registered to vote online, you'll need to provide your Digital Registration Number (DRN) on your application for a postal vote. If you've forgotten your Digital Registration Number (DRN) you can request to be notified of it by completing this form. Where to send your completed form Once you have completed the form and made sure you have signed it, you need to send it to the electoral services team at your local council. You can send your form by post. The electoral services team at your local council may also accept a scanned copy of your form by email, but you should check with them first. When applying for a new proxy vote, you must return your proxy vote application form by 5pm, six working days before the poll. When changing or cancelling an existing proxy, postal or postal proxy vote, you must return your proxy vote application form by 5pm, 11 working days before the poll. Where to send your completed form Once you have completed the form and made sure you

have signed it, you need to send it to the electoral services team at your local council. You can send your form by post. The electoral services team at your local council may also accept a scanned copy of your form by email, but you should check with them first. When applying for a new proxy vote, you must return your proxy vote application form by 5pm, six working days before the poll. When changing or cancelling an existing proxy, postal or postal proxy vote, you must return your proxy vote application form by 5pm, 11 working days before the poll. Where to send your completed form Once you have completed the form and made sure you have signed it, you need to send it to your local Electoral Registration Office. You can send your form by post, or you can send a scanned copy by email. When applying for a new proxy vote, you must return your proxy vote application form by 5pm, six working days before the poll. When changing or cancelling an existing proxy, postal or postal proxy vote, you must return your proxy vote application form by 5pm, 11 working days before the poll. Where to send your completed form Once you have completed the form and made sure you have signed it, you need to send it by post to the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland. Where to send your completed form Once you have completed the form and made sure you have signed it, you need to send it to your electoral registration office. You can send your form by post. Your electoral registration office may also accept a scanned copy of your form by email, but you should check with them first. If you're registered as an overseas voter and used to live in Northern Ireland, you need to send it by post to the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland. If you're a service voter or a Crown service voter and you're from Northern Ireland, you also need to send your form by post to the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland. Find where to send your form Enter your postcode to find the address of your electoral services team Enter a postcode Submit Postcode Find where to send your form Enter your postcode to find the address of your electoral services team Enter a postcode Submit Postcode Find where to send your form Enter your postcode to find get the address of your local Electoral Registration Office Enter a postcode Submit Postcode Find where to send your form Enter your postcode (of the address you used when you registered as an overseas voter) to get the address of your electoral registration office Enter a postcode Submit Postcode Check if you already have a proxy vote Check if you already have a proxy vote If you're not sure if you already have a proxy vote, contact the electoral services team at your local council to find out. Check if you already have a proxy vote Check if you already have a proxy vote If you're not sure if you already have a proxy vote, contact the electoral services team at your local council to find out. Check if you already have a proxy vote Check if you already have a proxy vote If you're not sure if you already have a proxy vote, contact your local Electoral Registration Office to find out. Check if you already have a proxy vote Check if you already have a proxy vote If you're not sure if you already have a proxy vote, contact the electoral registration office to find out. Emergency proxy vote In certain circumstances, where you have an emergency that means you can't vote in person, you can apply for an emergency proxy. This must be something that you weren't aware of before the normal proxy vote deadline. You have a medical emergency (PDF) You are away for work (PDF) Your photo ID is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged, and the deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate has passed. This form can also be used if your Anonymous Elector's Document is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged. These applications can be made up to 5pm on polling day. Emergency proxy vote In certain circumstances, where you have an emergency that means you can't vote in person, you can apply for an emergency proxy. This must be something that you weren't aware of before the normal proxy vote deadline. You have a medical emergency

You are away for work (PDF) Your photo ID is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged, and the deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate has passed. This form can also be used if your Anonymous Elector's Document is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged. These applications can be made up to 5pm on polling day. Emergency proxy vote In certain circumstances, where you have an emergency that means you can't vote in person, you can apply for an emergency proxy. This must be something that you weren't aware of before the normal proxy vote deadline. You have a medical emergency and intend to vote in an election in Scotland (PDF) Complete this form if you intend to vote in a local council election or Scottish Parliamentary election. If you intend to vote in another election, you should complete the form below. You have a medical emergency and intend to vote in any other election (PDF) You are away for work (PDF) You are a Scottish prisoner serving a sentence of 12 months or less (PDF) You need to change your existing proxy for a Scottish council election (PDF) Complete this form to apply for a new proxy for a local council election if your existing proxy cannot vote in person on your behalf. Your photo ID is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged, and the deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate has passed. This form can also be used if your Anonymous Elector's Document is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged. These applications can be made up to 5pm on polling day. Emergency proxy vote In certain circumstances, where you have an emergency that means you can't vote in person, you can apply for an emergency proxy. This must be something that you weren't aware of before the normal proxy vote deadline. You have a medical emergency and intend to vote in an election in Scotland (PDF) Complete this form if you intend to vote in a Scottish Parliamentary election. If you intend to vote in another election, you should complete the form below. You have a medical emergency (PDF) You are away for work (PDF) You are a Scottish prisoner serving a sentence of 12 months or less (PDF) You live in England, Scotland or Wales and your photo ID is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged, and the deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate has passed. This form can also be used if your Anonymous Elector's Document is lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged. These applications can be made up to 5pm on polling day. Postal proxy vote Postal proxy vote If your trusted person can't get to the polling station, they can apply to vote for you by post. This is called a postal proxy vote. The deadline to apply for a postal proxy vote is 5pm, 11 working days before the poll. They will need to contact the electoral services team at your local council for more details and to request a further application form. Postal proxy vote Postal proxy vote If your trusted person can't get to the polling station, they can apply to vote for you by post. This is called a postal proxy vote. The deadline to apply for a postal proxy vote is usually 5pm, 11 working days before the poll. They will need to contact the electoral services team at your local council for more details and to request a further application form. Postal proxy vote Postal proxy vote If your trusted person can't get to the polling place, they can apply to vote for you by post. This is called a postal proxy vote. The deadline to apply for a postal proxy vote is usually 5pm, 11 working days before the poll. They will need to contact the Electoral Registration Office for your area for more details and to request a further application form. Postal proxy vote Postal proxy vote If your trusted person can't get to the polling station, they can apply to vote for you by post. This is called a postal proxy vote. They will need to contact the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland for more details. Postal proxy vote Postal proxy vote If your trusted person can't get to the polling station, they can apply to vote for you by post. This is called a postal proxy vote. The deadline to apply for a postal proxy vote is usually 5pm, 11 working days before the poll. They will need to contact the

electoral services team at your local council for more details and to request a further application form. How to cancel your proxy vote If you have nominated a proxy, but then change your mind and wish to vote yourself, then you have several options. One option is that you can apply to cancel your proxy vote. In England and Wales contact your local council. In Scotland contact your electoral registration office. The deadline to cancel a proxy vote in England, Scotland and Wales is before 5pm, 11 working days before the election. If a completed postal proxy vote has already been returned, the proxy arrangements cannot be cancelled for that election. Another option is for you to vote in person. You are able to do this, as long as you do so before your proxy. This is not an option if your proxy has already voted by post on your behalf. Alternatively you can apply for a postal vote. The deadline to do so is 5pm, 11 working days before the election you will be voting in. This postal application will then supersede the voting by proxy application. How to cancel your proxy vote Contact the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland for more information on this. How to cancel your proxy vote England, Scotland and Wales If you have nominated a proxy, but then change your mind and wish to vote yourself, then you have several options. One option is that you can apply to cancel your proxy vote. In England and Wales contact your local council. In Scotland contact your electoral registration office. The deadline to cancel a proxy vote in England, Scotland and Wales is before 5pm, 11 working days before the election. If a completed postal proxy vote has already been returned, the proxy arrangements cannot be cancelled for that election. Another option is for you to vote in person. You are able to do this, as long as you do so before your proxy. This is not an option if your proxy has already voted by post on your behalf. Alternatively you can apply for a postal vote. The deadline to do so is 5pm, 11 working days before the election you will be voting in. This postal application will then supersede the voting by proxy application. Northern Ireland Contact the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland for more information on this. Your location: Change England Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Overseas We're showing you content for . Select 'change' to choose a different location. Related content How to vote by proxy If you've already applied to vote by proxy, find out about the process and what your proxy will need to do on polling day. 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. 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. Register to vote All you need to register to vote is 5 minutes and your National Insurance number.