

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. Electoral Identity Card The deadline to apply for an Electoral Identity Card to use at the local council elections on 18 May 2023 has now passed. on the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland website . requirement Overseas voters need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations. This applies to: UK parliamentary by-elections Recall petitions From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections. If you don't have accepted photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate. about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on polling day. Introduction The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID at some elections. In Northern Ireland, voters have been required to show ID when voting since 1985, and photo ID since 2003. The new requirement does not change this. The only acceptable forms of ID in Northern Ireland are: a UK, Irish or EU passport a UK, Irish or EEA driving licence a Translink 60+ Smartpass a Translink Senior Smartpass a Translink Blind Person's Smartpass a Translink War Disabled Smartpass an Electoral Identity Card a Translink Half Fare SmartPass a biometric immigration document The ID can be expired, but staff at the polling station must be satisfied that you are the person in the photograph on the ID. about what photo ID is accepted and how to apply for an Electoral Identity Card on the Electoral Office of Northern Ireland website . requirement Voters in England need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections. This applies to: Local elections and by-elections Police and Crime Commissioner elections UK parliamentary by-elections Recall petitions From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections. If you don't have accepted photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate. about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on polling day. requirement Voters in Wales need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections. This applies to: Police and Crime Commissioner elections UK parliamentary by-elections Recall petitions From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections. If you don't have accepted photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate. about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on polling day. Voters in Wales will not need to show photo ID to vote at a polling station at Senedd elections or local council elections. requirement Voters in Scotland need to show photo ID to vote at polling places in some elections. This applies to: UK parliamentary by-elections Recall petitions From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections. If you don't have accepted photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate. about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on polling day. Voters in Scotland will not need to show photo ID at Scottish Parliament elections or at council elections. Voting and bringing ID Accepted forms of photo ID Learn about the different types of photo ID that will be accepted at elections that require photo ID Voting in person Voting in person on polling day? Learn more about what to expect when you go to the polling station. 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. Register to vote All you need to register to vote is 5 minutes and your National Insurance number. Applying for a Voter Authority Certificate Learn more about how to apply for a free

voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate 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. Supporting others Supporting people to meet the voter ID requirement We know that some groups are more likely to experience barriers created by the voter ID requirement and may need support to access photo ID. Organisations working directly with voters, including local authorities and charities, can help voters make sure they have photo ID ahead of any election where this requirement applies. We have produced a generic set of resources for use in England, Scotland and Wales. These resources will help organisations raise awareness, and support voters with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, if needed. This pack also includes information on voter registration, and information tailored to the needs of specific groups. We have also published bespoke resources to support people who are registered to vote anonymously, or who might benefit from doing so. Explore our resources for partners, charities and civil society organisations Supporting others Supporting people to meet the voter ID requirement We know that some groups are more likely to experience barriers created by the voter ID requirement and may need support to access photo ID. Organisations working directly with voters, including local authorities, Electoral Registration Officers, and charities, can help voters make sure they have photo ID ahead of any election where this requirement applies. We have produced a generic set of resources for use in England, Scotland and Wales. These resources will help organisations raise awareness, and support voters with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, if needed. This pack also includes information on voter registration, and information tailored to the needs of specific groups. We have also published bespoke resources to support people who are registered to vote anonymously, or who might benefit from doing so. Explore our resources for partners, charities and civil society organisations Supporting others Supporting people to meet the voter ID requirement We know that some groups are more likely to experience barriers created by the voter ID requirement and may need support to access photo ID. Organisations working directly with voters, including local authorities and charities, can help voters make sure they have photo ID ahead of any election where this requirement applies. We have produced a generic set of resources for use in England, Scotland and Wales. These resources will help organisations raise awareness, and support voters with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, if needed. This pack also includes information on voter registration, and information tailored to the needs of specific groups. We have also published bespoke resources to support people who are registered to vote anonymously, or who might benefit from doing so. Explore our resources for partners, charities and civil society organisations Your location: Change England Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Overseas We're showing you content for . Select 'change' to choose a different location. Related content Accepted forms of photo ID Learn about the different types of photo ID that will be accepted at elections that require photo ID Applying for a Voter Authority Certificate Learn more about how to apply for a free voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate Voting in person Voting in person on polling day? Learn more about what to expect when you go to the polling station. Register to vote All you need to register to vote is 5 minutes and your National Insurance number.