

Parliament You are in the Types of elections section Home Voter Types of elections 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 Find your candidates First published: 12 September 2019 Last updated: 14 April 2021 Overview The Scottish Parliament represents the people of Scotland. It has the power to make decisions and pass laws in certain areas, known as devolved matters. This includes areas such as health, education and economic development. The UK Parliament can still make laws for Scotland, but will usually get the consent of the Scottish Parliament first. The UK Parliament it still responsible for areas known as reserved matters. This includes, defence, foreign affairs and immigration, for example. about the Scottish Parliament Representation There are 129 elected Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs), and you are represented by eight of them. One MSP is for your constituency, and the other seven are for your region. The eight electoral regions are: Central Scotland Glasgow Highlands and Islands Lothian Mid Scotland and Fife North East Scotland South Scotland West Scotland Who can vote in these elections Voting in these elections Scottish Parliament elections take place every five years. Scottish Parliament elections use the Additional Member System. At these elections, you have two votes. With the first vote, you choose between candidates standing for election in your constituency by putting a cross [X] next to your choice. Then, you cast a second vote to choose a political party or independent candidate to represent your region. You put a cross [X] in the box next to your choice of political party or independent candidate. Find your candidates Looking for the candidates standing in your area? Enter your postcode to view a list. Your candidates will be available a few weeks before polling day. Enter a postcode Submit Postcode Your location: Change England Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Overseas We're showing you content for . Select 'change' to choose a different location. Related content Register to vote All you need to register to vote is 5 minutes and your National Insurance number. 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. Which elections you can vote in Learn more about which elections you can vote in.