

Voter Authority Certificates and Anonymous Elector's Documents | Electoral Commission

Running electoral registration - Wales You are in the Running electoral registration - Wales section Home Running electoral registration - Wales View the navigation tree Go to main guidance section: Running electoral registration - Wales Your role and responsibilities as Electoral Registration Officer Your public engagement strategy and registration plan Eligibility to register to vote Special category electors Inviting individuals to register to vote How can individuals register to vote? Processing applications and other amendments to the register throughout the year Managing amendments, reviews, objections and deletions throughout the year Maintaining the register throughout the year Access and supply of the electoral register Absent voting (Pre-commencement of Elections Act measures) Absent voting (Post commencement of Elections Act measures) Voter Authority Certificates and Anonymous Elector's Documents Applications for Voter Authority Certificates The requirement for anonymous electors to have an Anonymous Elector's Document to vote in person Deadlines for applications for Voter Authority Certificates or Anonymous Elector's Documents for a particular election or petition Identifying suspicious Voter Authority Certificate and Anonymous Elector's Document applications Verification of an applicant's identity for a Voter Authority Certificate or an Anonymous Elector's Document Determining an application for a Voter Authority Certificate or Anonymous Elector's Document The exceptions and attestation processes for Voter Authority Certificates and Anonymous Elector's Documents Determining applications for Voter Authority Certificates and Anonymous Elector's Documents following the exceptions or attestation process The appeals process Producing permanent Voter Authority Certificates Producing Anonymous Elector's Documents Issuing temporary Voter Authority Certificates Emergency proxy on grounds relating to voter identification Maintaining records of Voter Authority Certificates and Anonymous Elector's Documents issued Data retention Disclosure of information Voter Authority Certificates and Anonymous Elector's Documents From May 2023 individuals, who wish to vote in person, including those acting as a proxy on behalf of another individual, will be required to produce an accepted form of photographic ID to prove their identity before they will be issued with a ballot paper. This will apply at: UK parliamentary by-elections Recall petitions Police and Crime Commissioner elections The legislation commencing for the requirement for voter ID to be provided at UK Parliamentary General elections will only take effect for polls after 5 October 2023. The accepted forms of photographic ID are 1 : a passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state, or a Commonwealth country (including an Irish Passport Card) a driving licence issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state (this includes a provisional driving licence) a biometric immigration document an identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card) a Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card) a Blue Badge a national identity card issued by an EEA state an Older Person's Bus Pass funded by the Government of the United Kingdom a Disabled Person's Bus Pass funded by the Government of the United Kingdom an Oyster 60+ Card funded by the Government of the United Kingdom a Freedom Pass a Scottish National Entitlement Card issued in Scotland a 60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales a Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales a Senior SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland a Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland a War Disablement SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland a 60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland a Half Fare SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland an Electoral

Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland Expired photographic identification documents can still be used as accepted photographic ID at the polling station or signing place, as long as the photograph is still a good likeness of the elector. Where an individual does not have or does not wish to use one of these accepted forms of photographic ID, they can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. This is a document containing an elector's name and photograph which can be obtained free of charge from their local Electoral Registration Officer (ERO), following verification of an applicant's identity. Anonymous electors wishing to vote in person will also need to produce photographic ID. Due to their entry on the polling station register being linked to their electoral number, rather than their name, the only accepted form of photographic ID for an anonymous elector will be an Anonymous Elector's Document. This is a document containing an anonymous elector's elector number and photograph which can be obtained free of charge from their local ERO, following verification of an applicant's identity. The Voter Authority Certificate and Anonymous Elector's Document cannot be used as proof of identity for any other purpose than for voting. This guidance covers how individuals can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate or Anonymous Elector's Document, and how you as ERO should process and determine these applications. It also includes information on the production and delivery of these documents and what data should be retained following applications. 1. Rule 37, Schedule 1 Representation of the People Act 1983 ■ [Back to content at footnote 1](#) Last updated: 27 February 2023 [Book traversal links for Voter Authority Certificates and Anonymous Elector's Documents](#) [Resources for Electoral Registration Officers - Absent voting Applications for Voter Authority Certificates](#)