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Am I registered to vote?

Anyone included on the electoral roll and eligible to vote will receive a poll card around the 1st April 2016. The poll card will provide details of where to cast your vote, the times the polling station will be open and deadlines for applying for a postal and proxy vote. If you do not receive your poll card around this time contact the elections office on 01633 644212 to check that you are registered.

How do I register to vote?

Applying to be included on the electoral roll is simple and quick. Simply log on to www.gov.uk/registertovote and complete the online registration process. You will need your date of birth and national insurance number to complete the registration process. Once complete the application should come through to us in 2-3 working days. If you are unable to complete the registration process online you can telephone the elections office on 01633 644212 and request an application form.

In order to be registered in time for the election all applications must be received no later than the 18th April 2016.

I pay council tax so why am I not already registered to vote?

Different people can be registered to pay council tax than register on the electoral roll. Additionally, each individual application to be included on the electoral roll must be verified against the department for work and pensions database before being added to the register and therefore requires different information to be registered.

Who can vote at this elections?

Provided you are registered on the electoral roll, are 18 years of age or over on the 5th May 2016 and a British, Irish, Commonwealth or European citizen you will be entitled to vote at this election.

Those electors registered as service voters, crown servants and overseas electors can also vote at this election.

What is postal voting and how does it work?

Any person registered on the electoral roll can apply to vote by post at an election. If you apply to vote by post you will be sent a ballot paper in advance of polling day, this can be to your registered address or a different address, including overseas, of your choice. When applying for a postal vote you will provide your signature and date of birth which must also be provided on the postal vote to verify that it is you completing and returning it to us. When you receive the postal vote, simply complete the enclosed statement providing your date of birth and signature, mark the ballot paper, place it in the pouch included and return it to us.

If you wish to apply for a postal vote you can request an application form by contacting the elections office on 01633 644212 or visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/register-to-vote/postal-vote-application to download an application form.

In order for the postal vote to take effect for the election we will need to have received your application form by 5pm on the 19th April 2016.

[Help completing your postal vote is available here.](#)

I have applied for a postal vote, when should I expect to receive it?

Depending on when you applied for a postal vote can depend on when you should receive it. If you have applied for a postal vote before the 11th March 2016 then you should receive it around the 20th April 2016.

Any applications received after the 11th March 2016 and up to the deadline for applications at 5pm on the 19th April 2016 should expect to receive their postal vote around the 25th April 2016.

When applying for a postal vote you will need to consider these timescales and whether you will receive the postal ballot paper and return it to us before polling day.

I have a postal vote but it hasn't arrived yet, what do I do?

If you haven't received your postal vote by the 28th April 2016 you can be issued a replacement. We are not allowed to issue replacement postal votes before this date.

In order to obtain a replacement postal vote you will need to visit the election office at County Hall, Usk, NP15 1GA and bring photographic ID with you.

Replacement postal votes can be issued up to 5pm on polling day.

I have received my postal vote but I have made a mistake, how do I get a new one?

If you have made a mistake on the ballot paper, provided that your intention of who you voted for is clear your vote will still be counted. If you can cross out your mistake and re-mark the ballot paper you do not need a replacement postal vote.

Similarly, if you have entered the wrong date of birth on the postal voting statement or signed outside the box we can still accept the postal vote.

If however you wish to receive a replacement postal vote you will need to visit the election office at County Hall, Usk, NP15 1GA and bring photographic ID with you, as well as the complete postal vote that you have received, before a replacement can be issued.

Replacement postal votes can be issued up to 5pm on polling day.

I have a postal vote but I need to change the details of it, what do I do?

If you need to amend the details of your postal vote you will need to apply in writing before 5pm on the 19th April 2016 to amend the details. This includes cancelling the postal vote.

Changes can be made in writing by sending it to Election Office, Monmouthshire County Council, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA or email elections@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

After 5pm on the 19th April 2016 no changes can be made to existing postal votes.

What is proxy voting and how does it work?

Proxy voting is where an elector appoints another person to vote on their behalf. Sometimes this can be a useful option if you are abroad and not sure if you will receive the ballot paper in time or if you are travelling with no fixed address.

When applying for a proxy vote you will provide us with the details of the person you are appointing to vote on your behalf. We will then write to that person providing them with details on how they can vote on your behalf.

Any person registered on the electoral roll can apply to vote by proxy. In order to set up a proxy vote for the election we must have received your application form by 5pm on the 26th April 2016.

You can obtain a registration form by contacting the elections office on 01633 644212 or downloading an application form from www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/register-to-vote/apply-to-vote-by-proxy.

What day can I go to vote?

Polling stations will be open on the 5th May 2016 to cast your vote. You will have received a poll card with these details and which polling station you must visit in order to vote.

What times are the polling stations open?

Polling stations will be open from 7:00am until 10:00pm.

I haven't received my poll card, can I still vote?

You do not need to take your poll card with you to vote on polling day unless you have registered anonymously on the electoral roll. Each polling station will have a list of the people entitled to vote at that building on the day and you can provide your name and address to the staff to be checked.

If you do not know which polling station you need to attend please contact the elections office on 01633 644212.

How do I know who I am voting for?

The deadline for submitting nomination papers to stand for election is 4pm on 7th April 2016. After that time we will know who is standing for election and publish a notice on our website of who they are.

For this election there will be three ballot papers with three different voting systems.

Welsh Assembly Constituency

The constituency will elect one person to represent Monmouthshire in the Welsh Assembly. On this ballot paper you will have one vote for the person that you wish to vote for. The candidate with the most votes will be elected.

Welsh Assembly Region

The regional election will elect four Assembly Members to represent the South East Wales region in the Welsh Assembly based on proportional representation. Each party will provide a list of candidates who will be named on the ballot paper and elected in that order. There may also be independent candidates standing for a regional seat in addition to the parties. You will have one vote on the ballot paper for a political party or independent candidate and the number of people elected for that party will depend on the number of votes they receive across the region.

Police and Crime Commissioner Election

This election will appoint a candidate to the position of Police and Crime Commissioner for the Gwent Police Area. Candidates will submit their nomination papers and can be independent candidates or those representing political parties. On this ballot paper you can have up to two votes, one for your first choice candidate and another for your second choice candidate if you wish to use your second preference vote.

The first choice votes will be counted to identify the two candidates with the most votes. At this point, the ballot papers for the remaining candidates will be recounted based on their second preference vote for those two candidates and added to the original totals to identify the winner.

When will I know who wins the election?

The votes for the Welsh Assembly Constituency and Regional election will be counted as soon as the polling stations close on the 5th May 2016 with a result expected in the early hours of the 6th May 2016.

The Police and Crime Commissioner election votes will be counted on Sunday 8th May 2016.