

My Vote
My Voice

Voter ID and how to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate



Contents:

ID for voting	3
Applying for a Voter Authority Certificate	6
Voting at the polling station	11
Other ways to vote	13
Voting Checklist	16
Words used in this easy read	18

ID for voting



You will need to take photo ID with you when you vote at a **polling station**.



You will need to show 1 form of ID from this list:

- passport
- driving licence (a provisional licence is ok)
- identity card with **PASS mark**
- biometric immigration document
- defence identity card



Some concessionary travel cards and some national identity cards are ok.



If your photo ID is out of date, it is ok to use it if the photo still looks like you.



For more information about what you can use as photo ID, go to the Electoral Commission's website (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID>)



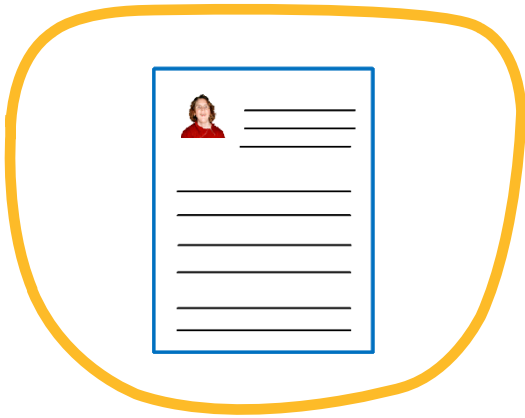
or phone their helpline on **0800 328 0280.**



If you do not have any of the ID on the list,



or you are not sure if your photo ID still looks like you



you can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate.**



A **Voter Authority Certificate** is free.



You will be able to use your **Voter Authority Certificate** as photo ID when you vote at a **polling station.**

Applying for a Voter Authority Certificate



You need to be registered to vote before you can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate**



It is a good idea to apply as soon as possible in case your local council needs to check any details with you.



You can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate** online on the Government's website (<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>)



or by filling in a paper application form.



If you need help to apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate**, or want a paper application form



Contact your local council.



To find the contact details for your local council, go to the Electoral Commission's website (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter>)

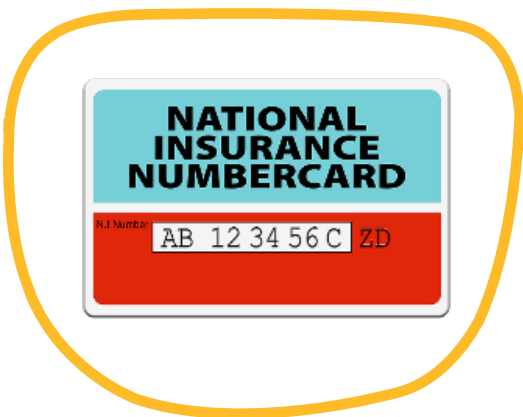


or phone their helpline on **0800 328 0280**.



When you apply for your **Voter Authority Certificate**, you will need to know your:

- name
- address
- date of birth



It is a good idea if you know your National Insurance Number when you apply for your **Voter Authority Certificate**.



You can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate** if you do not know your National Insurance Number.



If you do not know your National Insurance Number, your local council will contact you to ask for something else to prove your identity.



When you apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate**, you will need to send a photo with the form.



There are rules about the photo you can send.



The rules are like the rules for a passport photo.



If you do not have a photo which keeps to the rules, your local council can take a photo for you.



To find out more about the rules for the photo, go to the Electoral Commission's website (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID>)



or phone their helpline on **0800 328 0280.**

Voting at the polling station



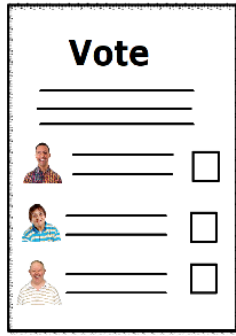
When you arrive at the **polling station**, a member of staff will ask you for your name and address.



They will look for you on the voting register.



They will ask for your photo ID.



If they are happy with your photo ID, they will give you your **ballot paper** and let you know where you can fill it in.



There will be a private area at the **polling station** where staff can look at your photo ID.



If you want the staff to look at your photo ID in the private area of the **polling station**, let them know when you arrive at the **polling station**.



If you need any help when you are at the **polling station**, please ask the staff.

Other ways to vote



An application form for voting by post, enclosed in a yellow rounded rectangle. The form is yellow and contains three sections: 'Name' with a single line, 'Address' with three lines, and 'Phone Number' with a single line.

Voting by post

If you want to vote by post, you will need to fill in an application form.



You do not need to have photo ID to vote by post.



Your **ballot paper** will arrive in the post.



Fill in the **ballot paper** and send it back to your local council in your postal vote pack before the deadline



If there is not enough time to post your postal vote pack, you can take it to your **polling station** or local council officer on elections day.



Voting by proxy

If you want to vote **by proxy** you will need to fill in an application form by the deadline.



The person you choose to vote for you will need to go to your **polling station** to vote.



They will need to show their photo ID.



They will not need to show your photo ID to vote for you.



If you cannot go to the **polling station** because of an emergency, you can apply for an emergency proxy up until the deadline on elections day.



For more information, or to get a postal or proxy application form, go to the Electoral Commission's website (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter>)

Voting Checklist



You might want to use the checklist on the next page to check you are ready to vote.



Have I registered to vote?



You must register to vote by the deadline.



Do I have photo ID?



If not, have I applied for a **Voter Authority Certificate**?

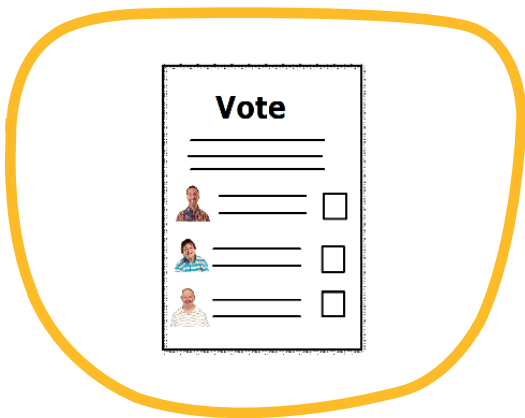


You must apply for your **Voter Authority Certificate** by the deadline



Do I have my photo ID ready to take to the **polling station**

Words used in this easy read



Ballot paper The piece of paper you fill in to vote.



By proxy by proxy If you do something by proxy, you are doing it for someone else. If you vote by proxy, it means you ask someone you trust to vote for you.



PASS mark PASS stands for Proof of Age Standards Scheme. If an organisation has an ID card with a PASS mark, it means that the organisation has been checked. The police think the PASS mark is a good idea



Polling station The place you go to vote in an election.



Voter Authority Certificate
A free document you can get to use as photo ID for voting in an election.

My Voice My Vote is on a mission to encourage people with learning disabilities and autistic people to vote.

Visit www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk to find out more.

Get in touch:

info@myvotemyvoice.org.uk
Twitter: #MyVoteMyVoice



With thanks to Photosymbols and the Electoral Commission

