

How is voter registration changing?

At the moment voter registration is done by household. One person in a household fills in a form and enters the details of everyone who lives there. The people who are eligible are then registered to vote. Now everyone will need to register themselves individually.

Most people who are currently registered to vote will be registered automatically under the new system. This will happen because local elections offices are comparing their electoral registers to existing records to confirm who people are. This will be done carefully through a secure system that has been tested thoroughly.

For all sorts of reasons, some people will not match against these records and therefore cannot be transferred automatically to the new register. For example, they may have moved home since the record was last updated, or there may be a difference in the spelling of the two records.

To find out more about the changes go to www.gov.uk/yourvotematters

The open register

There are two registers. Why?

Using information received from the public, registration officers keep two registers - the electoral register and the open register (also known as the edited register).

The electoral register

The electoral register lists the names and addresses of everyone who is registered to vote in public elections. The register is used for electoral purposes, such as making sure only eligible people can vote. It is also used for other limited purposes specified in law, such as:

- detecting crime (e.g. fraud)
- calling people for jury service
- checking credit applications.

The open register

The open register is an extract of the electoral register, but is not used for elections. It can be bought by any person, company or organisation. For example, it is used by businesses and charities to confirm name and address details. Your name and address will be included in the open register unless you ask for them to be removed. Removing your details from the open register does not affect your right to vote.

You can find more information about both registers and how they may be used at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Your personal information

We will only use the information you give us for electoral purposes. We will look after personal information securely and we will follow the Data Protection Act 1998. We will not give personal information about you and the other people in your household to anyone else or another organisation unless we have to by law.



New Forest District Council
Electoral Services
Appletree Court
Beaulieu Road
Lyndhurst, SO43 7PA
Call 023 8028 5445
Email electoralservices@nfdc.gov.uk
Web www.newforest.gov.uk

Date: August 2015

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The Occupier
1 The Secret
Southampton
SO40 1XB

Every household must respond to this letter as soon as possible.

Dear Occupier,

Please check the names of the people (printed on the inside of this form) who are currently registered to vote at this address. If no-one is currently registered, the form will be blank.

If all details remain the same you must now confirm this to us.

It is quick and easy to confirm by:

- Visiting www.registerbyinternet.com/newforest
- Calling **0800 197 9871**
- Texting **NOCHANGE with your security code to 80212** (standard charges)

You will need the security code at the bottom of this page.

If you are unable to use any of the automated options above, you should complete and return this form.

If the details need to be updated or someone should be added or removed (including anyone now over 16 years old) you should let us know.

It is quick and easy to inform us of changes by visiting:

- www.registerbyinternet.com/newforest

You will need the security code at the bottom of this page.

If you can't use this automated option, you should amend and return this form.

Please note that this form is not a registration form - anyone added will not be registered automatically. Anyone added to this form will need to register by visiting www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

If they do not, we will contact the individuals separately to invite them to register.

Security Code

Part One: 11111

Part Two: 2222222

Do not return the form if you have responded using one of the automated options.

Yours sincerely

Dave Yates
Electoral Registration Officer

Who is eligible to vote?



You can fill in this form at

www.registerbyinternet.com/newforest

Your security code is

111111

Please check the information in the table below

If nothing has changed

- Go to the website above, or
- Call 0800 197 9871, or
- Text NOCHANGE followed by your security code to 80212 (if nobody is eligible to vote include a reason after your security code e.g. empty, business, 2nd home, none, other), or
- Sign the declaration on page 3 and return the form in the reply paid envelope.

If anything is wrong

- Go to the website above, or
- Cross it out and put the correct information in the 'Changes' box.

IAN BROWN

Changes: IAN BROWN

If anyone has moved out

- Go to the website above, or
- Cross out their name.

Changing your choices

- ▶ If anyone wants to **vote by post or by proxy** (someone voting on your behalf) you can download an application form at www.aboutmyvote.co.uk.
- ▶ There is more information about the **open register** on page 4 of this form. If anyone wants to change their choice about the open register they will need to contact us separately.

Use **black ink** and write in CAPITALS or go online at www.registerbyinternet.com/newforest

Name	Over 70?	Nationality	Postal or proxy vote?	Included on open register?
SOE BLOGGS	NO	British	NO	NO
Changes:				
Telephone & email in CAPITALS (optional):				
ANDREA N OEHU	NO	British	NO	NO
Changes:				
Telephone & email in CAPITALS (optional):				
Brian OEHU	NO	British	NO	NO
Changes:				
Telephone & email in CAPITALS (optional):				

Add anyone new aged 16 or over here. You can see who is eligible to register on page 3.

Forename(s):	Surname:
Nationality:	Telephone (optional):
Email in CAPITALS (optional):	
Forename(s):	Surname:
Nationality:	Telephone (optional):
Email in CAPITALS (optional):	

Add anyone new aged 16 or over here. You can see who is eligible to register below.

Forename(s):	Surname:
Nationality:	Telephone (optional):
Email in CAPITALS (optional):	
Forename(s):	Surname:
Nationality:	Telephone (optional):
Email in CAPITALS (optional):	
Forename(s):	Surname:
Nationality:	Telephone (optional):
Email in CAPITALS (optional):	
Forename(s):	Surname:
Nationality:	Telephone (optional):
Email in CAPITALS (optional):	

More than 9 people eligible to register? Contact us using the details on page 1 and we will send you another sheet.

Nobody eligible to vote?

Please explain why.

- The property is empty
- This is solely a business premises
- This is a second home
- None of the residents are eligible to vote because of their nationality. Please give their nationalities.

- Other reason. Please state.

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information in this form is true. I have checked with everybody on the form that the information about them is correct. I understand that it may be an offence not to give the information asked for in this form or to give false information.

I understand that if I do not give the information asked for in this form, I could face a fine of up to £1,000 – and if I knowingly give false information, I could face an unlimited fine and/or up to six months in prison.

Signature

Date (DD MM YYYY)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Full name (please use CAPITALS)

If the occupier cannot complete this form (for example, nobody lives at this address) the person who is in charge of the property must complete it instead. Please tell us who you are – for example, landlord.

Who is eligible to register to vote?

You can register to vote in the UK if you are:

- resident (usually live) in the UK, and
- aged 16 or over (but you will not be able to vote until you are 18).

You must also be either:

- a British, Irish or European Union citizen, or
- a Commonwealth citizen who has leave to remain in the UK or who does not require leave to remain in the UK.

Now sign and return the form

Send the signed form in the pre-paid envelope – or to the address on page 1 of this form.